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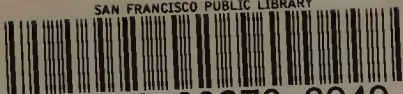
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August - 1785.

The wheat which had been
sown before the late rains
fell was up, and coming up,
very well.

I observed that Corn, wh^h
had been planted under the
Persimmon trees in the field,
looked as thriving and well
as that which was sown sha-
ded - the same thing I had
observed before (formerly) with
respect to wheat under the
scr. of trees - and also of crop
which proves them to be a
valuable tree in Enclosures.

M^r Washington visited
the sick child of M^r L. Wash-
ington, and returned to her
her.

Finished travelling the
right hand walk lead up to
the front gate from the Court
yard.

Wednesday - 31.

Mercury at 70 in the Morning -
72 at Noon - and 72 at Night.

Westerly wind and Clouds all day

Rid the Plantations in the Neck, &
at Muddy hole - found the Corn at
the first as mentioned yesterday
at the other places. -

M^r Washington did to see the
sick child of M^r Lund Washington
from whence Doct^r Craik came here
to breakfast - after which he visi-
ted John Allen, and then return-
ed to Maryland. -

THE DIARIES OF
GEORGE WASHINGTON

1748-1799

EDITED BY
JOHN C. FITZPATRICK, A.M.

VOLUME III
1786-1788



PUBLISHED FOR
THE MOUNT VERNON LADIES' ASSOCIATION OF THE UNION

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1786

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THE DIARIES OF
GEORGE WASHINGTON

1786

JANUARY

Sunday, 1st. Lund Washington and Wife dined here and returned in the Afternoon.

Mr. Shaw went up to Alexandria and stayed all Night.

Monday, 2d. Immediately after an early breakfast I went out with the Hounds, but returned as soon as it began to rain, without touching upon the drag of a Fox.

Mr. Shaw returned from Alexandria this Morning before Breakt.

Wednesday, 4th. After breakfast I rid by the places where my Muddy hole and Ferry people were clearing, thence to the Mill and Dogue run Plantations, and having the Hounds with me, in passing from the latter towards Muddy hole Plantation, I found a Fox, which after dragging him some distance and running hard for near an hour, was killed by the cross road in front of the House.

Having provided cutting knives and made the Boxes at my own Shop, I directed my Overseers at the several Plantations at which I had been to cut Straw and mix three-4ths of it with one-fourth Bran (from my Mill) to feed their out-lying Horses, Whilst their work Horses is also to be fed with this and Oats mixed.

I also directed that my Chariot Horses, and all others about my home Ho., except the stud horse and three

horses which will be frequently rid a hunting, to be fed with Bran and chopped Hay in the above proportion, and that my Waggon and Cart Horses should be fed with chopped Rye and chopped Hay in the same proportion of one to 4.

Mr. Bushrod Washington and his Wife came here in a Chariot, 4 Horses and 3 Servants just after we had dined.

Thursday, 5th. A Daniel McPherson from Loudoun came here with some money from my Loudoun Tenants, sent by the Widow of Lewis Lamart.¹

The Cape Wheat which (on the 30th of November) was cut not as I thought and had ordered, that is within 4 Inches of the ground, but between 6 and 8 from it; having grown a good deal I ordered (and 6 or 8 days ago tho not noticed before, it was in part done) that it should be again cut. Part of 2 Rows at the No. Et. corner were, by mistake of orders, cut within 1 or 2 inches of the ground; so as to shew the Crown of the Wheat quite bear and white. I thereupon stopped the cutting of any more, resolving to attend to the effect of this close shearing, at this season. About 12 feet of these Rows, were all that received the second cutting.

Took an Acct. of the Tools about the home house which are as follow:

7 Spades	7 Axes
4 Mattocks	8 Butchrs. Knives
5 Weedg. Hoes	3 Hillg. Do.
1 Cuttg. Knife	1 Hay Ditto

Friday, 6th. My Boat went up with a load of Flour to Alexandria from my Mill for Mr. Hartshorne. A distressing time It is to be feared the people must have had of it and probably would not, after all, reach the Port.

Saturday, 7th. The Boat which was sent off yesterday

¹ 'To Anne Lemart p. Danl. McPherson with a Comn. 5 p. Ct. £27. 12. 0' (*Cash Account*).

with flour got no further than Johnson's Ferry and there by neglect suffered to get aground. Sent and ordered it to be got of, and to proceed, or to return, as circumstances might dictate, the last of which was done.

Sunday, 8th. Mr. Bushrod Washington and his Wife went away after Breakfast, and about 11 O'clock Betsy and Patcy Custis returned to Abingdon in my Chariot, accompanied by their Brother and Sister, Nelly and Washington Custis.

Sent my Boat of this afternoon with the Flour for Alexandria, with which she returned last Night on acct. of the Weather.

Monday, 9th. Saturday, yesterday, and this day morning, the flats and creeks were froze, but that on the former dispersed with the tide when the Winds blew, the latter remained.

Sent Mr. Shaw to Alexandria to dispatch my Boat which went up yesterday and to purchase and send down a ton of Iron in it wch. was accordingly [done]. He and the Boat both, returned at Night.

Rid over my ferry plantation, thence to the Mill, and thence to my Dogue run and Muddy hole Plantations before dinner, as also to the place where my Negro Carpenters were at Work and directed them to get me a stick for a heavy roller, and scantling for Plow stocks, Harrows, &ca., &ca.

Tuesday, 10th. Rid to my Plantation in the Neck, and took the hounds with me. About 11 O'clock found a fox in the Pocason at Sheriden's point, and after running it very indifferently and treeing it once, caught it about one O'clock.

In the evening one William Barber from the lower end

of Fauquier came here to rent some Land I have in that quarter and stayed all Night.

Wednesday, 11th. Agreed to let William Barber have 50 (or more Acres of Land if he chooses it) at the rate of Ten pounds pr. Hundred Acres; for the term of fourteen years; and to allow him one year free from Rent in consideration of the improvements he may make.

Sent Mr. Shaw to my Mill to get the Mill Book, and to take a state of the flour in the Mill.

And sent my Overseer to forewarn some persons who were hunting upon my land from the like practice.

Thursday, 12th. Mr. Shaw went up to the Ball at Alexandria.

Friday, 13th. Laid out the ground behind the Stable, formerly a Vineyard, for a fruit Garden.

Mr. Shaw returned about 12 O'clock from Alexandria.

Saturday, 14th. Went out with the Hounds and run a fox from 11 O'clock untill near 3 O'clock, when I came home and left the Dogs at fault, after which they recovered the Fox and it is supposed killed it.

Before the Chase, I visited my Ferry and Dogue Run Plantations.

Sunday, 15th. Nelly and Washington Custis returned home to day.

Doctr. Stuart came here to Dinner and returned in the Afternoon.

Monday, 16th. Run round my Plantation at the Ferry, and on my return found a Mr. Armstrong here on business of Mr. Balch's respecting my Nephews,¹ who after dining returned.

¹ 'By G. & L. Washington's on their Acct. Vizt. Mr. Balch £5. John Pringle

Began from an appreh[ensio]n that there would not be much frost to put Ice in to my Ice Ho., tho there was but little of it.

Sent my Stone Mason, Cornelius McDermott Roe, to the Proprietors of the Quarries of freestone along down the River, to see if I could be supplied with enough of a proper kind to repair my Stone steps and for other purposes.

Tuesday, 17th. Employed as yesterday, in collecting Ice, but under many disadvantages, being obliged to go over to the Maryland shore and pick up the floating Ice in the river, which I was disposed to do, rather than run the risk of not laying up a store.

Cornelius McDermott Roe returned, having had the offer of Stone [from] Mr. Brent.¹

Wednesday, 18th. Colo. Fitzgerald called here on his way from Dumfries and dined and then proceeded. Fixed with him, and requested that he would give the Board of Directors of the Potomack Company notice of the meeting intended to be held at the Great Falls on Monday, the 30th Instt.

Getting Ice this day also.

Thursday, 19th. Discontinued getting Ice, the river not being in a State to get it from the other shore and the prospect such as to get it any where in the course of a day or two.

The negro Shoemaker belonging to Mr. Lund Washington came to work here in the forenoon of this day.

Friday, 20th. A mixture of Snow and hail fell all the fore part of the day and hail and rain the latter part, which

£2. 1s. 3d. John Milum £1 8s 0d — £8. 9s 3d.' (*Cash Account.*) Evidently some of the debts contracted by the two boys, while at school in Georgetown.

¹ Daniel C. Brent, who owned a stone quarry on Aquia Creek.

consolidated the Snow which in the morning might be about 6 or 8 Inches deep.

Saturday, 21st. Rid to my Plantations at Muddy hole and Dogue run, from thence to the Mill. Upon my return found Mr. Jno. Dandridge ¹ here.

Sunday, 22d. Raining more or less all day, and a close thick fog the whole day, proceeding from the dissolution of the Snow which by Night was almost gone. Wind tho' not much of it Southerly and warm — the damp in the house being also very great the damp upon the walls being to be swept of.

Tuesday, 24th. Began my work of Ice-getting again to day, but it was not in a proper State, being rather a mixture of Snow and Ice and not hard enough.

Wednesday, 25th. Mr. Jno. Dandridge set off on his return home after breakfast.

I rid to Morris's, Muddy hole, and Neck Plantations between Breakfast and dinner.

The State of the Ice was such that I was obliged to desist from getting more until the next freezing spell.

And set about the Banks round the Lawn, in front of the gate between the two mounds of Earth.

Thursday, 26th. Renewed my Ice operation to day, employing as many hands as I conveniently could in gettg. it from the Maryland shore, carting and pounding it.

Mr. Shaw sent up to the dancing assembly at Alexandria after Dinner.

Friday, 27th. Mrs. Washington set out after breakfast for Abingdon, to see Mrs. Stuart who is ill.

¹ Washington's nephew by marriage.

I rid to my Mill and to the Plantation at Dogue run, also to the places where the Muddy hole and ferry people were at work.

Mr. Shaw returned home an hour or two within Night. Getting Ice again to day.

Saturday, 28th. Went out after breakfast with my hounds. Found a Fox in the Branch within Mr. Thomson Mason's Field and run him sometimes hard and sometimes at cold hunting from 11 o'clock till near two, when I came home and left the huntsman with them, who followed in the same manner two hours or more longer, and then took the Dogs off without killing. In the course of the chase, and at the upper end of the cover in which the above Fox was found, I see two run out at once, neither of which appeared to be the chased Fox. This shows how plenty they are on that side the Creek.

When I came home found Colo. Gibson, a Mr. Pollock¹ (of Richmond), and Colo. Allison here, who dined and stayed all night.

Getting Ice again to day.

Sunday, 29th. After breakfast the Gentlemen who came yesterday returned.

In the afternoon Colo. Grayson and his Nephew, Mr. Benja. Orr, came in and stayed all Night.

Monday, 30th. Mrs. Washington, with Betsy and Patsy Custis, came home from Abingdon before dinner, and after it Colo. Grayson and Mr. Orr left this.

Planted the Hemlock Pine wch. was brought to me by Cornelius McDermot Roe from Colo. Blackburn's in my

¹ Oliver Pollock, of New Orleans, was in Virginia in January, 1786, and it may have been he who paid Washington this visit. He had been the United States Agent in New Orleans during the Revolution and had spent his fortune in the cause.

shrubberies, and on sixteen square rod of ground in my lower pasture, I put 140 Bushels of what we call Marle, viz. On 4 of these No. Wt. corner were placed 50 bushels, on 4 others So. Wt. Corner 20 bushels, on 4 others So. Et. corner 40 bushels, and on the remaining 4, 20 bushels. This Marl was spread on the sod in these proportions, to try: first, whether what we have denominated to be marl possesses any virtue as a Manure; and secondly, if it does, the quantity proper for an Acre.

Transplanted (after dividing it into two) the French honey suckle in my North garden to the Lawn, one half in front of ea: garden gate.

Tuesday, 31st. Planted a few pine trees in my Wildernesses.

FEBRUARY

Wednesday, first. Not being able to leave here yesterday (as I intended) for the appointed meeting of the Directors of the Potomack Navigation at the Great Falls this day, I set out this Morning at the first dawning of day, for this purpose, and after as disagreeable a ride as I ever had for the distance, arrived at the Falls at half after 11 O'clock, where I found Colo. Gilpin (who had been there since Sunday night) levelling, etca., and Colo. Fitzgerald, who got there just before me.

Spent the remainder of this day in viewing the different grounds along which it was supposed the Canal might be carried and, after dining at the Huts, went in the evening accompanied by Colo. Fitzgerald and Mr. Potts to a Mr. Wheeler's in the Neighbourhood (abt. 1½ Miles off) to lodge.

Thursday, 2d. Spent this day in examining the ground more attentively, and levelling the different ways we had

discovered yesterday, but on Acct. of the swollen state of the River, and rapidity of the current we could not determine absolutely upon the best cut, and therefore directed Mr. Stuart, the Assistant Manager, to have all of them opened, accurately measured, levelled, and their bottoms sounded by the day of March when the directors are to be requested pointedly to meet for the final choice.

Dined again at the Hutts; some little time after which, Govr. Lee (who had been detained by high water) and Mr. Rumsey came in. The first concurred in sentiment with us on these measures.

After 7 Oclock at Night Colo. Fitzgerald, Mr. Potts, and myself, left the Hutts and came to Mr. William Scott's, about 6 Miles on this side of the Falls, where we lodged.

Friday, 3d. After an early breakfast we left Mr. Scott's; and about noon I reached home, where I found an Eastern shore man delivering the Oats which Doctr. Stuart had engaged on my behalf of a Mr. George Savage of Northampton, viz. 800 Bushels.

Soon after I arrived Miss Sally Ramsay, Miss Kitty Washington, Doctr. Craik, junr., and Mr. Porter came in and Dined, and stayed all Night. After Dinner Mr. Rumsey arrived and stayed the evening also.

Saturday, 4th. Jno. Porter and Doctr. Craik went away before Breakfast, and Mr. Rumsey after dinner.

Having assembled the Men from my Plantations, I removed the garden Houses which were in the middle of the front walls to the extreme points of them; which were done with more ease and less damage than I expected, considering the height one of them was to be raised from the ground.

Monday, 6th. The largest of my Buck fauns which had

been missing since friday last came home after dinner with its left hind knee broke and much shivered — supposed to be by a shot.

Planting pines in the Wilderness on the left of the lawn and spading the ground there to day.

Tuesday, 7th. Mrs. Washington, Kitty Washington, Miss Ramsay, Mr. Shaw, and myself, went to Colo. McCarty's to the funeral of Mrs. Piers ¹ (one of his daughters). I took my ferry and Dogue run plantations in the way. We returned home to dinner, after which Doctor Griffith came in, and my Overseer from the Plantation on Rappahannock.

Wednesday, 8th. After Breakfast Mr. Griffith went away, and before dinner Mr. Wm. Craik came in and stayed all Night. Finished planting all the young pine trees in the Wilderness on the left.

Thursday, 9th. Went early in the Morning to my River Plantation. Took the Dogs with me and on my return hunted, but never got a fox afoot, tho I dragged one to Mr. Robt. Alexander's, Pocason at whose house I called.

In my way home I took Muddy hole plantation. Found Mr. Willm. Craik gone, and Mr. Fendall and Mr. Hipkins here, who went away at Night, by which Doctr. Craik, Senr. came in.

Friday, 10th. This day was remarkably fine and promotive of vegetation. The buds of the lylack were much swelled and seemed ready to unfold.

Doctr. Craik went away after Breakfast.

I began to hand weed the drilled Wheat from the Cape

¹ Name also spelled Peers. Her husband (probably Valentine Peers) was a business partner of Colonel John Fitzgerald, the firm being Fitzgerald and Peers, of Alexandria.

behind the Stables. The part which was cut so close by mistake, appeared to be quite dead to, if not at the roots. The top of the blades of the other, in some places, had turned red, as if singed with the frost; and the bottom blades were, in many places grown yellow. The last sowed wheat had, within these few days, vegetated a good deal, and was stooling very prettily.

Making up the banks round the Serpentine walks to the front gate.

Saturday, 11th. A Mr. Wooldridge (an English Gentleman) and a Mr. Waddell¹ of No. Carolina, together with Mr. Murray, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Maize,² came here to dinner; and stayed all Night.

Transplanted the following trees to the following places in the North garden, viz; the first on the left, looking eastward from the garden house, along the walk in front of it, is a peach tree transplanted the 14th of last March from the Gardeners Nursery, to the South side of the Walk by the Englh. Walnuts. The 2d and 4th, on the same side, are burgamy pears, grafted the first April last yr. by the green House. The 3rd on the same side, is a black May heart cherry, grafted at the same time, in the same place. The 5th on the same side is a Duke cherry, Do. Do. The 3d tree from the same house, on the *right* Side (looking the same way) is also a Duke cherry, grafted as above. By the stumps of the Cornation Cherry, and Apricot, which were removed into the same garden on the 26th of last October, (not expecting either of them to live) I planted a white heart cherry; and one of the small cherries that used to grow in the walk, in front of the House; the white heart was placed by the stump of the Cornation Cherry.

¹ James (?) Waddel, a Presbyterian minister.

² Philip Mazzei (?) It may have been Robert Mease, of Alexandria. (See entry for February 12, *post.*)

Brought a Goose and Gander of the Chinese breed of Geese, from the Reverend Mr. Griffiths; and also two of the large white (or Portugal) Peach trees; and 2 Scions from a tree growing in his garden, to which he could give no name — the last for my Shrubberies.

Sunday, 12th. Messrs. Wilson, Murray, and Mease went away before breakfast. Mr. Wooldridge and Mr. Waddell after it, and Miss Ramsay and Miss Kitty Washington sometime after them in my Chariot.

Monday, 13th. Planted the two peach trees which were brought on Saturday from Doctr. Griffith's in my fruit garden behind the Stable (the two uppermost ones at the No. Et. Corner of it. Also planted others from the Nursery in the Garden.

Began to raise the Mound of earth on the right of the gate (coming in).

Rid to my Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue run, and Ferry, and also to the Mill. Found Doctr. Craik here on my return, who dined with us and proceeded to Mr. Little's at Cameron, to whose wife he was sent for.

Tuesday, 14th. Employed all the Women and weak hands (who on acct. of the Snow) could not work out, in picking the wild onion from the Eastern shore Oat for Seed.

Doctr. Craik came in whilst we were at Dinner and stayed all Night.

Wednesday, 15th. Doctr. Craik went away after Breakfast.

Began with some of the Men abt. the House to bundle faggots for filling up gullies; as they could not on acct. of the Weather remove earth.

Thursday, 16th. Put one of Doctr. Gordon's Subscription Papers ¹ (yesterday) in the hands of Doctr. Craik to offer to his acquaintances.

Friday, 17th. Rid to my Mill, and the Plantation at Muddy hole, Dogue run and ferry.

Sent for Doctr. Brown, who visited my Negro Overseer (Will) and Gabriel at Muddy hole, who were both sick — the first since this day week and was visited by Doctr. Brown on Tuesday last.

Saturday, 18th. Began the yards back of the Green house designed for the Jack Ass and Magnolia.

The Bitch Stately was lined by the Dog Vulcan. Jupiter had been put to her and Venus, but never seemed to take the least notice of them; but whether he ever lined either of them is not certain. The contrary is supposed.

Rid to the Plantation in the Neck, and returned home by Muddy hole and visited the sick men there whom I found better.

Took a list to day all my Negroes which are as follow, at Mount Vernon and the plantations around it — viz.

HOME HOUSE

Will.....	val de Chambre.....	1
Frank.....	} Waiters in the House.....	2
*Austin.....		
Hercules.....	} Cooks.....	2
Nathan.....		

¹ Dr. William Gordon, an Episcopal minister who came to America in 1770, and resided at Jamaica Plain, Boston, Massachusetts. He returned to England after the Revolution, and published, in 1788, in London, the *History of the Rise, Progress and Establishment of the Independence of the United States*, in four volumes. He depended upon Washington for some of his information, and there are many, long prosy letters from him to Washington, in the Washington Papers, Library of Congress. This subscription paper was for the advance sale of the work. Washington subscribed for two sets at a total of £2.

Giles.....	}	Drivers and Stablers.....	3
*Joe.....			
Paris — boy....			
*Doll.....	}	Almost past Service.....	2
Jenny.....			
*Betty.....	}	Sempstresses.....	3
*Lame Alice.....			
*Charlotte.....			
*Sall.....	}	House Maids.....	2
*Caroline.....			
Sall Brass.....	}	Washers.....	2
*Dolly.....			
*Alice.....	}	Spinners.....	4
Myrtilla.....			
*Kitty.....	}	old and almost blind	
Winny.....			
*Schomberg.....		past labour.....	1
Frank.....	}	Stock keeper	
Cook Jack.....			
Gunner.....	}	old Jobber.....	2
Boatswain.....			
Sam.....			
Anthony.....			
*Tom Davis.....	}	Labourers.....	7
*Will.....			
*Joe.....			
Jack.....		Waggoner.....	1
*Simms.....		Carter.....	1
Bristol.....		Gardener.....	1
Isaac.....	}	Carpenters.....	4
James.....			
Sambo.....			
*Tom Nokes.....			
Natt.....	}	Smiths.....	2
George.....			
*Peter — lame...		Knitter.....	1
		grown....	41

Children

*Opey.....	Betty's — House	12 yrs. old	
*Delphy.....	Ditto.....	6 do.....	2
*Anna, little	Alice's.....	13 do.	
*Christopher	Do.....	11 do.	
*Judy.....	Do.....	7 do	
*Vina.....	Do.....	5 do.....	4
*Sinah.....	Kitty's.....	14 do.	
*Mima.....	Ditto.....	12 do.	
*Ally.....	Ditto.....	10 do.	
*Lucy.....	Ditto.....	8 do.	
*Grace.....	Ditto.....	6 do.	
*Letty.....	Ditto.....	4 do.	
*Nancy.....	Ditto.....	2 do.....	7
*Richmond..	Lame Alice.....	9 do	
*Evey.....	Do.....	2 do.	
*Delia.....	Do.....	3 Mo.....	3
Lilly.....	Myrtilla's.....	11 yrs old	
Ben.....	Do.....	8 do.	
Harry.....	Do.....	3 do.	
Boatswain..	Do.....	6 do.	
Sally.....	Do.....	3 Mo.....	5
*Cyrus.....	Salls.....	11 yrs do....	1
*Timothy....	Charlotte.....	1... do....	1
*Wilson.....	Caroline.....	1... do....	1
*Moll.....			
*Peter.....	Mr. Custis's Estate.....		2
	In all.....		<u>67</u>

MILL

Ben.....	Miller.....	1
Jack.....	} Cowpers.....	3
Tom.....		
Davy.....		
	In all.....	<u>4</u>

RIVER PLANTN.

*Davy.....	Overseer.....	I
*Breechy.....	} Labour'g Men.....	IO
Nat.....		
Ned.....		
Essex.....		
Bath.....		
*Johnny.....		
Adam.....		
*Will.....		
Robert.....	} Overseer's Wife.....	I
*Ben.....		
*Molly.....	} Labour'g Women.....	17
Ruth		
*Dolly		
Peg		
Daphne		
Murria		
*Agnus		
Suck		
Sucky		
Judy — M		
Judy — F		
*Hannah		
*Cornelia		
*Lidia		
*Esther		
Cloe		
*Fanny		
*Alice		

Children

Will.....	Mill Judy's.....	13 yrs. old..	I
*Joe.....	Hannah's.....	12 Do.....	I
Ben.....	Peg's.....	10 Do.	
Penny.....	Ditto.....	8 Do.....	2
Joe.....	Daphne's.....	8 Do.	
Moses.....	Ditto.....	6 Do.	
Lucy.....	Ditto.....	4 Do.	
Daphne....	Ditto.....	1 Do.....	4
*Ned.....	Lidia's.....	7 Do.	

Peter.....	Ditto.....	5 Do.	
*Phoebe.....	Ditto.....	3 Do.....	3
Cynthia....	Suckey's.....	6 Do.	
Daniel.....	Ditto.....	4 Do.....	<u>2</u>
			42

*James.....	Ferry Doll's.....	8 yrs. old..	1
*Bett.....	Neck Dolls.....	7... do.	
*Natt.....	Ditto.....	4... do.	
*Dolly.....	Ditto.....	3... do.	
*Jack.....	Ditto.....	1... do....	4
Rose.....	Suck — Bass.....	12... do....	1
*Milly.....	House Sall's.....	7... do....	1
*Billy.....	Do. Charlotte's...	4... do....	1
*Hukey.....	Agnus's.....	1... do....	1
*Ambrose....	Cornelia's.....	1 month...	1
		In all.....	<u>52</u>

DOGUE RUN PLANTN.

*Morris.....	Overseer.....	1
Robin	} Labour'g Men.....	8
Adam		
Jack		
Jack — long		
Dick		
Ben		
*Matt		
*Morris		
*Brunswick	Ruptured.....	1
Hannah.....	Overseers wife.....	1
*Lucy.....	} Labour'g Women.....	10
Moll		
Jenny		
Silla		
Charity		
*Betty		
*Peg		
*Sall		
*Grace		
*Sue.....		
	old	
	grown....	<u>21</u>

Children

Sarah.....	Charity's.....	6 yrs. old	
Billy.....	Ditto.....	5.. do	
Hannah....	Ditto.....	3.. do	
Elly.....	Ditto.....	6 mo....	4
*Jesse.....	Salls.....	6 yrs. old	
*Kitty.....	Do.....	4.. do	
*Laurence...	Do.....	1.. do....	3
*Jenny.....	Lucy's.....	9.. do.	
*Daniel.....	Do.....	3.. do.	
*Ned.....	Do.....	6 mo....	3
Aggy.....	Jones' (dead)	9 yrs. old	
Simon.....	Do.....	4.. do.	
Bett.....	Do.....	3.. do....	3
Sophia.....	Sylla's.....	3.. do.	
Sabra.....	Ditto.....	6 Mo.	2
*Andrew....	Betty's.....	1 yr. old...	1
*Crager.....	Pegs.....	6 Mo....	1
		In all.....	<u>38</u>

FERRY PLANTN.

*Sam Kit	}	Labour'g Men.....	5
London			
*Caesar			
*Cupid			
*Paul	}	Labour'g Women.....	10
Betty			
Doll			
*Lucy			
*Lucy			
Flora			
*Fanny			
*Rachel			
*Jenny	}	grown....	<u>15</u>
Edy			
*Daphne			

Children

*Godfrey....	Betty's.....	12 yrs. old
*Beck.....	Ditto.....	11.. do.

*Hanson.....	Ditto.....	7.. do.	
*Lucretia.....	Ditto.....	6.. do.	
*John.....	Ditto.....	3.. do.	
*Bill Langston	ditto.....	6 Mo....	6
*Patt.....	Doll's.....	11 yrs. old	
*Milly.....	Ditto.....	4.. do.	
*Daniel.....	Ditto.....	3.. do.	
*Silvia.....	Ditto.....	1.. do.	4
*Edmund....	Lucy.....	6.. do	
*Mike.....	Ditto.....	3.. do	
*Phill.....	Ditto.....	8 Mo....	3
Joy.....	Flora.....		
Jacob.....	Ditto.....	5.. do.....	2
		In all.....	<u>30</u>

MUDDY HOLE PLANTN.

*Will.....	Overseer		
*Will	} labour'g Men.....	5	
Charles			
Gabriel			
*Jupiter	} labour'g Women.....	9	
Kate			
Nanny			
Sarah			
Alice			
Peg			
Sackey			
Darcus			
Amy			
Nancy			
		grown....	<u>14</u>

Children

Molly.....	Kates.....	14 yrs. old	
Virgin.....	Ditto.....	11.. do.	
Will.....	Ditto.....	8.. do.	
Kate.....	Ditto.....	4.. do.	4
Moses.....	Darcus's.....	8.. do.	
Townshend.	Do.....	6 Mo....	2
Letty.....	Peg's.....	7 yrs. old	

Forrister....	Ditto.....	2..	do.....	2
Uriah.....	Sackey's.....	10..	do.	1
Kate.....	Salice's.....	4..	do.....	1
Isbel.....	Sarah's.....	3..	do.....	1
Muddy hole.....				In all..... 25
Home House.....				67
River Plantation.....				52
Dogue Run Plantn.....				38
Ferry Plantation.....				30
Mill.....				4
Total.....				216

N.B. Those marked with Asterisks are Dower Negros.¹

Monday, 20th. Began, though the ground was wet, to set the Posts of my Paddock fence.

Mr. Lawrence Washington of Chotank, Mr. Wm. Thompson, Mr. Willm Stuart, and Mr. Lund Washington came here to dinner — all of whom except the first went away after it.

Tuesday, 21st. A Mr. McPherson of Alexandria came and returned before dinner. His business was, to communicate the desires of a Neighbourhood in Berkeley County, to build a School and Meeting House on some Land of mine there, leased to one []. My answer was, that if the tenant's consent could be obtained, and the spot chosen was upon the exterior of my Land, so as that no damage would result from Roads, etca., to it, mine should not be wanting.

Colo. Carrington,² Doctr. Brown, and a Mr. Scott of Maryland (a liver with Colo. Fitzhugh), also Mr. Lawe. Washington (of this County), came here to dinner; all of

¹ From the Custis estate.

² Colonel Edward Carrington (1749–1810) was lieutenant-colonel of artillery and quartermaster-general to Greene in the Southern Campaign during the Revolution; delegate to the Continental Congress, 1785–86 and, later, the foreman of the jury in the treason trial of Aaron Burr.

whom except Colo. Carrington, went away after it. In the evening Mr. Crawford and his wife, child, and nurse, came in and stayed all night.

Wednesday, 22d. After breakfast Colo. Carrington and Mr. Crawford, his Wife, etc., left this — the first for Alexandria to pursue his rout to Congress (of which he is a Member), — the other on his return home.

Mr. Lawe. Washington went up to Alexandria after breakfast, dined, and returned in the Evening.

Thursday, 23d. Mr. Lund Washington came here to dinner, and returned afterwards. A Mr. Rice Hooe¹ came in the afternoon and stayed all Night.

Mr. Shaw went to Alexandria to the Assembly, and to some business in town for me.

The weather early in the Morning obliged me to quit planting Posts for my Paddock.

Friday, 24th. Mr. Lawe. Washington and Mr. Hooe left this after breakfast, and crossed in my Boat (which could not get back till the wind moderated after sundown) to Maryland, as the nearest cut home.

After Sunset Mr. Shaw returned from Alexandria.

Not being able either to remove Earth, set Posts, or plant Trees sent the Men into the New grounds to making faggots, and the women to picking the wild onions from the Oats which I wanted to sow.

Saturday, 25th. Renewed the fencing of my Paddock to day.

Went into the Neck and to Muddy hole Plantations, to measure the fields which I had plowed for Oats and for experiments; also to Dogue run, to divide some fields and to mark the rows for planting Corn.

¹ Hooe was a shareholder in the Potomac Company.

In the Afternoon Mr. Willm. Booth came in and stayed all Night.

Monday, 27th. Mr. Booth went away after breakfast, and Doctr. Brown came after dinner (and returned) to visit Boatswain a sick Negro man.

Having received, yesterday Evening, a number of fruit trees from my Nephew, Mr. Willm. Washington ¹ of Blenheim, I planted them in my fruit garden in the following order and places, viz.

In the No. Et. square of this garden, the Tree at the No. Et. Corner is a Carnation Cherry, and the next to it, below, on the East side, is also a Carnation. The 3d row, three two pound Pears, east side, next the Carnation and one, 1 pound ditto. 5th Row, 2 Cooks pears East, and 2 green Burgamot. 7 Row, 3 Bell Pears East and 1 Catherine Ditto. 9th Row, 2 yellow Burgamot East, and 2 Boncriton Pears.

No West Square: 3d Row, 1 popes pear next the cross Walk and 3 of Colo. Richd Henry Lee's fine winter Pear. 5 row, four old Ho. Russitans. 6 row, four of the Heath Peach. 7 Row, four of Booth's Genitan. 8 Row, three amber Plumbs next the cross walk and 2 Green gage Do. west of them. 9th Row, two Booths Genitans Next the cross Walk and 2 New town pippin West of them.

So. West Square. 1st Row, next the cross Walk, Peaches from the Garden. 2d Row, 4 New town pippin. 3d Row, Peaches from the Garden. 4th Row, 4 Gloucester White Apple. 5th Row, Peaches from the garden. 6 row, 2 Glostr. Whe. Ap. on the West side, and next these, adjoining the cross walk, are 2 Apple trees taken from the middle walk in the No. Garden — said to be Vandiviers. 7 Row, Peach trees from the Garden. 8 Row, 1 apple tree next the cross walk, taken from the border in the No. garden, by the

¹ William Augustine Washington.

English Walnut trees, and the other three trees are from Stratford, given to me by Colo. Henry Lee, 1 of which he calls the Medlar Russitan, another of the Chantilly pear, and the 3d the Carnation cherry, but this being a mistake, the others are not to be depended upon.

The 3d and 7th Trees in the outer or East row, next the fencing are May duke Cherry from Blenheim.

So. East Square. 2d. Row, next the cross walk, are two Golden, and two New Town Pippins from Major Jenifer's. 4th Row, four of the Maryland red strick from the same place. 6th Row, next the cross walk, two more of the same — that is Maryland red Strick.

Tuesday, 28th. Set out, by appointment, to attend a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Potomack Company at the Great Falls. Dined and lodged at Abingdon, to which place Mrs. Washington and all the Children accompanied me. Mr. Shaw also set out on a visit to Dumfries.

MARCH

Wednesday, 1st. After a very early Breakfast at Abingdon I set off for the meeting at the Great falls and passing near the Little Falls arrived at the former about 10 Oclock; where in a little time, assembled Govr. Johnston, Colo. Fitzgerald, and Colo. Gilpin.

Little or no business done to day and, seperating in the evening for the purpose of procuring Quarters, I went to Mr. Fairfax's (about 3 Miles off) where I lodged.

Thursday, 2d. Accompanied by Mr. Fairfax I repaired again to the Falls where we arrived about 8 Oclock and where we found Colo. Gilpin, who remained there all Night. About two hours afterwards, Govr. Johnson, Colo.

Fitzgerald and Mr. Potts arrived, but the day was so stormy that we could neither level, nor Survey the different tracks talked of for the Canal — which, and to determine on the most eligible one were the principle objects of the meeting. Unable to do any business without doors, we returned to the Huts. Resolved on the next advances, considered some other Matters, dined there as we did yesterday, and again seperated for lodgings. Col. Fitzgerald and Mr. Potts accompanied Mr. Fairfax and myself to Towlston.

Friday, 3d. The Snow which fell yesterday and last Night covered the ground at least a foot deep, and continuing snowing a little all day, and blowing hard from the No. West, we were obliged, tho' we assembled at the huts again to relinquish all hopes of levelling and surveying the ground this trip; and therefore resolved on the rout for the Canal from the best view we could take, and information get; and after doing some other business, as a board — particularly resolving to advertize a Contract for the Supply of our labourers with provisions — we broke up the Meeting; and I again returned (first dining at the Hutts) with Colo. Fitzgerald to Towlston, in a very severe evening.

Saturday, 4th. After breakfast Colo. Fitzgerald and myself set off in our return home, and parted at 4 Mile run. About half after four I got to Mount Vernon, where Mrs. Washington, Nelly, and little Washington had just arrived — as also Mr. Shaw from Dumfries.

Sunday, 5th. Mr. Richd. Bland Lee¹ came here to dinner and stayed all Night.

Monday, 6th. Mr. Lee went away about 10 Oclock and

¹ Richard Bland Lee (1762-1827) was, later, a member of Congress from Virginia, 1789-94.

Mr. Thornton Washington ¹ came in after we had dined and stayed all Night.

Mr. Lund Washington's Negro Shoemaker left working here on Saturday last.

Returned to the erection of my Deer paddock, which the bad weather had impeded. Brought carts from the plantations to assist in drawing in the Materials for the Work.

Tuesday, 7th. I rid to Muddy hole, and Dogue run Plantations, and by the grd. where the ferry hands were at work.

Wednesday, 8th. A Mr. [] Nisbett brother to J. M. Nisbett accompanied by Colo. Fitzgerald, Mr. Herbert ² and Mr. Potts came here to dinner and stayed all Night.

Thursday, 9th. After breakfast the Gentlemen who came yesterday returned to Alexandria, and after candles were lighted Doctr. Jenifer came in and stayed all Night.

Friday, 10th. Lund Washington came here to Breakfast, after which he and Doctr. Jenifer both went away.

Between breakfast and Dinner, a Mr. Rollins,³ who has undertaken to finish my new room, came here settled a plan with my joiners and returned before dinner.

Saturday, 11th. Rode to all my Plantns. and to the Mill. On my return found a Mr. James Hains, the Manager of the James River Canal here, sent by the Directors to me, and to proceed with Letters from me to the Potomack and

¹ Thornton, son of Samuel Washington.

² William Herbert, of Alexandria.

³ John Rollins, or Rawlins, of Baltimore.

Susquehanna Works, which being given he proceeded after dinner to the former.

Brought a Load of Salt in my Boat from Alexandria, for Fishing.

Sunday, 12th. About dusk, Mr. William Harrison¹ (a delegate from the State of Maryland) and his Son came in on their way to New York.

Monday, 13th. Mr. Harrison and son went away after breakfast, and Mr. Lund Washington came immediately afterwards and stayed till the afternoon.

The ground being in order for it, I set the people to raising and forming the mounds of Earth by the gate in order to plant Weeping Willow thereon.

Sent my Boat to Alexanda. for Salt with the Overseer in it who, by my order, engaged my Fishing landing at Johnson's ferry to Mr. Lomax in Alexandria, who is to put doors and windows to the house, and pay Twenty-five pounds for the use of it during the fishing Season.

Tuesday, 14th. Rid to my Plantations at Dogue run, Muddy hole, and in the Neck. At the former had begun to sow Oats in ground that was intended for, and had been added to my upper Meadow; but after sowing the narrow slipe at the lower end I ordered the plowmen to stop, and forbid any more harrowing as the ground was too wet and heavy to be worked to any advantage.

That ground in the Neck wch. I was cross plowing, for Oats also was too wet and heavy; but the lateness of the season induced me to continue plowing, as I wanted to bring it into fine tilth on acct. of clover seed which I meant to sow with the Oats.

¹ William Harrison; served as a delegate from Maryland to the Continental Congress, 1785-87.

Planted the intervals between the forest trees in my serpentine roads, or walks to the House from the front gate, with Weeping Willow. Note, part of these (nearly all on the right side going to the gate) were planted on Wednesday the first day of this Month, whilst I was on the business of the Potomk. Company at the great Falls.

Sent my Overseer, and Boat to Alexandria for another load of Salt.

Wednesday, 15th. The wet obliged to discontinue my working on the Grounds and set the people to picking the wild onions out of the oats which I am abt. to sow.

In the afternoon, the Vessel wch. I sent to York river for corn from the Plantations of the deceased Mr. Custis arrived with 1000 bushels.

Thursday, 16th. Finished the Mound on the right and planted the largest Weeping Willow in my nursery in the centre of it — the ground too wet to do anything to the other Mound on the left.

Landed 450 Bushels of Corn to day. More might have been got up but for the badness of the road, occasioned by the late rains, made it difficult passing with Carts.

Friday, 17th. Finished landing Corn, viz. 1000 Bushels which had swelled 13 bushels over.

Had every species of stock turned off my Muddy hole Wheat field, except two English Colts and [] with young.

Saturday, 18th. Rid to my Ferry, Dogue run, Muddy hole, and Neck Plantations. On my return before dinner found a Mr. Charton ¹ (a French Gentleman) here, introduced by a letter from Governr. Henry.

¹ Henry L. Charton.

Got the Mound on the left so far completed as to plant the next largest of my Weeping Willows thereon, the buds of which were quite expanded, and the leaves appearing in their unfolded state. Quaere, how much too far, in this state of the sap is the season advanced? Also planted the cuttings from, on trimming, of these trees in a nursery they being in the same forward state.

Spaded up some of the ground in my botanical garden for the purpose of planting the scaly bark hiccory nut of Gloucester in.

Also a piece of ground No. West of the green House, adjoining thereto, the garden Wall, and Post and rail fencing lately erected as yards for my Stud horses in order to plant the seed of the Honey locust, etca., etca.

About Noon this day finished crossing the ground in the Neck designed for Oats and clover, and nothing but the lateness of the Season could (if that will) justify my doing it whilst the ground is so wet, or beginning to inlist corn ground, which I did at the same place whilst the ground was in this condition.

Sunday, 19th. A Gentleman calling himself the Count de Cheiza D'Arteignan, Officer of the French Guards, came here to dinner, but bringing no letters of introduction, nor any authentic testimonials of his being either, I was at a loss how to receive, or treat him.¹ He stayed dinner and the evening.

Mr. Charton went away after dinner.

Monday, 20th. Planted in that square of my Botanical garden, adjoining to the Servants and spinning House in two and an half rows, 95 of the Gloucester hiccory nut. They are on that side of the square next the House, be-

¹ The Count came from Santo Domingo and introduced himself by letter from Alexandria. The name does not appear in the available lists of French officers.

tween the Walk and a locust tree standing within the square.

Trimmed all the Weeping willow trees which had been planted in the serpentine Walks both sides and which had begun to display their leaves.

Tuesday, 21st. The Count de Cheize D'Artingnon (so calling himself) was sent, with my horses, to day, at his own request, to Alexanda.

Mr. Shaw went to town to day on my business.

In the So. West square of my fruit Garden beginning with the upper row, next the cross wall, the following trees were planted, viz. 1st row, 4 damisons. 3d row, 4 common plumbs. 5th row, 4 damisons. 7 row, 4 common Plumbs. 9th row, 4 damisons — according to my Gardiner's account, all from Mr. Manley's place. And in the So. East square at the east side of the 3d row (counting from the cross Walk) are 2 Pears (common) from the same place.

A Captn. Hite came here between breakfast and dinner to see if I would join him in an Iron work on the So. Branch, wch. proposition I rejected.

Captn. W. Brooke came here to dinner and returned afterwds.

Mr. Shaw returned from Alexandria abt. 9 Oclock at Night.

Wednesday, 22d. Had the intervals between my Cape Wheat hoed. Cut the top of every other row of the first sowed of it about 8 Inches from the ground, it being not less than 12 or 14 Inches high, and many of the blades in places, appearing to be dying. Left the alternate rows untouched, to see what effect this cutting will have. The second sowing of this Wheat appears very lively and thriving, having a few grains of it left I had it planted in the missing places.

Hoed the ground behind the Garden again and planted therein, in three rows, 177 of the wild, or Cherokee plumb; (sent me by Mr. Geo. A. Washington) 8 inches apart in the rows with 18 inch intervals.

Also hoed up, under the Pines, in the inclosure near H. hole, abt. 4 rods of ground wch. is much shaded, and poor, to try whether it will bring the orchard grass.

Rid to all my Plantations; directed the Overseer at Dogue run to harrow the ground wch. had been sometime plowed for Oats, in order to get it ready for sowing, though it was much wetter than were to be wished. Did the same in the Neck, or River plantation, where the ground intended for the same purpose was in like condition.

Thursday, 23d. Along side the Cherokee plumb (planted yesterday) I planted in a row and piece, the Spanish chestnuts sowed last fall.

And next these 43 rows, one foot apart and about an inch asunder in the row between 17 and 18,000 seed of the honey locust.

Next these in three rows, planted 160 of the Portugal peach stone.

And adjoining these are 3 other rows of the common chestnut.

In the Evening Doctr. Craik came in.

Muddy hole hands finished grubbing their side of the New ground, in front of the House, and went about their fencing at home.

Friday, 24th. Rid to my Plantations at Dogue Run, Muddy hole, and in the Neck. Began again to sow Oats at the first and last of these, though the ground was yet too wet.

Sowed the ground which was prepared on Wednesday last under the Pine trees with about 1 quart of orchard grass seeds, and a gill of red Clover seeds mixed.

Doctr. Craik went up to Alexandria after breakfast.

Saturday, 25th. Rid to al the Plantations, and to the Mill.

Finding the ground both at Dogue run and River plantation (which had been twice plowed at each) for Oats too much consolidated and baked (the last plowings being when it was too wet) for the harrow to make much impression in it, and the lateness of the Season not allowing time to give it another plowing before sowing, I directed the Seed to be sown on it as it now is, and to be *Plowed* in, smoothing it afterwards with the harrow; but the ground in many places breaking up in large clods and flakes, more so indeed than at the first plowing, it is to be feared the seed will be irregularly sown, burried too deep, and the crop (after all the pains I intended to take with it) be indifferent and in bad condition to receive the grass seeds which were intended to be sown therewith.

In removing the planks about the Venetian Window, at the North end of the house, the Sill, and ends of the Posts, and studs, were found decayed; and were accordingly, the first renewed, and the other repaired.

Doctr. Craik came here to dinner and returned to Maryland after it.

Sunday, 26th. The warmth of yesterday and this day, forwarded vegetation much; the buds of some trees, particularly the Weeping Willow and Maple, had displayed their leaves and blossoms and all others were swelled and many ready to put forth. The apricot trees were beginning to blossom and the grass to shew its verdure.

Monday, 27th. Rid to all my Plantations. Finished plowing in the Oats at Dogue run — ground much too wet; but not to be avoided, as nothing could be well worse than a

longer delay in getting them sowed. Ordered the ground to be harrowed, to smooth and prepare it for the Timothy seed which I meant to sow with the Oats when they are up and require rolling.

What from the wetness of the above ground, and the last plowing (after sowing) being deeper than I chose, it is to be feared the Seed will come up badly.

The same apprehension I had concerning the Oats in the Neck, which are plowed in the same manner, and the ground equally wet. The harrow at this place follow the plows close. At Dogue run the whole was first plowed in before the harrow moved.

Tuesday, 28th. Finished sowing my Oats in the Neck and plowing them in, but not the harrowing of the ground after the Plows.

Finished the Land sides of my Paddock fencing, and as a temporary expedient, set about Water fences at each end, to serve till the fishing season is over.

Also finished the Mound on the left side (going out) of the front gate.

Sowed in [] rows in my botanical garden, one foot assunder, and about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch apart, in the rows, all the seed I had of the palmetto royal.

Replaced the following trees in my Shrubberies which were dead or supposed to be so, viz. 10 swamp Magnolia, 4 Red buds, 5 black haws, 3 locusts, 1 Swamp red berry.

Sent Mr. Shaw to Alexandria to settle some Accts. and receive money. He returned in the evening.

Wednesday, 29th. Finished crossing the ground at Muddy hole plantation, intended for experiments.

Began to plow a piece of grd. in the Neck for Burnet, Saint foin, and Rib grass, in front of the Overseer's house.

Rid to all my Plantations and to the fish house at the ferry where my Carpenters were at work. In the afternoon a Mr. Brindley, Manager of the Susquehanna canal, and Mr. Hanes, Manager of the James river Navigation, came in and stayed all Night.

Thursday, 30th. Rid to the ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole plantations and to the Mill.

On my return home, found a Mr. Wallace, an Irish Gentleman, sometime since recommended to me by Sir Edward Newenham,¹ here.

The Corn which I had lately received from York river having got very hot, I was obliged to send part of it to be spread in my Mill loft, part to be spread on the Barn floor at Muddy hole, part I spread above stairs in the servant's Hall, and part I spread on Carpets in the yard. The last of which from the appearance of the Weather I was obliged soon to take in again.

Finished harrowing the ground in which Oats had been sowed at Dogue run, and in the neck; and set a number of Hoes at the former to breaking the clods wch. the harrow could not effect. The ground in the Neck in many places was left very lumpy also, but on Acct. of other jobs there I could do no more to it at present.

Perceived the Oats which had been sown at Dogue run on the 14th instt. to be generally up. On Monday last they were beginning to peep out of the ground.

Planted in the holly clumps, in my shrubberies a number of small holly trees which some months ago Colo. Lee of Stratford sent me in a box with earth; also in the same shrubberies some of the slips of the Tree box. I also planted several holly trees which had been sent to me the day before by a neighbour, Mr. Thos. Allison.

¹ Sir Edward Newenham, Irish politician. Member of Parliament from Dublin, 1776-97, and active in attempts to reform Parliamentary abuses.

Mr. Brindley and Mr. Hains or Harris, went away after breakfast.

Friday, 31st. Walked to my Plantation in the Neck where, tho' the ground was nearly prepared for my grape Seeds, I could not sow them on acct. of the Weather.

Got my Paddock fence quite inclosed except along the Margin of ye River.

In the afternoon George Washington and his wife arrived in Colo. Bassett's Chariot.

APRIL

Sunday, 2d. A very hard frost this Morning — Water and wet Ice frozen — and day cold — Wind hard at No. West and weather clear. Snow which fell in the Night had drifted so as not to tell the depth of it easily, all the blossoms and young foliage much injured, and the forward fruit (if no more) entirely destroyed.

Just after dinner Mr. Fendall came in, and about Sundown a Doctr. Middleton, both of whom stayed all night.

April, 3d. Mr. Fendall went away before Breakfast, and Mr. Wallace and Doctr. Middleton soon after it.

Lund Washington dined here. Snow chiefly dissolved, ground very wet and unfit to stir.

Planted stocks of the imported haw thorn, brought by Mr. G. A. Washington from Mr. Lyon's, in the inclosure below the stable. Also of the yellow Jessamine by the Garden gates.

Tried my Jack to day to a Mare that was horsing, but he would not cover her. Mr. Griffith came.

Tuesday, 4th. Sent my Seins and People to the Fishing landing at the ferry, but no hand was made of Fishing.

Planted 6 of the pride of China brought from Mr. Lyons by G. A. Washington in my Shrubberies in front of the House, 3 on east side the right and left walks between the Houses and garden gates; and also the two young trees sent me some time ago by Mr. Griffith, to which no name had been given. These latter were planted, one on each side the right and left walks, near the garden gates on the hither or Et. side.

Wednesday, 5th. Fanned all the heated Corn to day. The trouble this Corn has occasioned to preserve it from entire destruction is [un] equal to the worth of it; to prevent its receiving some damage and getting musty I have not been able to do.

Hauling the Sein again to day to no great effect.

Thursday, 6th. Mr. Griffith went away after breakfast and I rid to my Plantations at the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole.

Transplanted 46 of the large Magnolio of So. Carolina from the box brought by G. A. Washington last year, viz. 6 at the head of each of the serpentine walks next the Circle, 26 in the Shrubbery or grove at the South end of the House, and 8 in that at the No. end. The ground was so wet, more could not at this time be planted there.

Took the covering off the Plants in my Botanical garden, and found none living of all those planted the 13th of June last, except some of the Acasce or Acacia, flower fence, and privy, and of these it was doubtful.

The Guinea grass shewed no signs of vegetation, and whether the root is living, is questionable.

None of the plants which were sowed with the seeds from China (a few of which had come up last year) were to be seen.

Whether these plants are unfit for this climate, or

whether covering and thereby hiding them entirely from the Sun the whole winter occasioned them to rot, I know not.

Cut two or three rows of the Wheat of good hope, within 6 Inches of the ground, it being near 18 Inches high (the first sowing) and the blades of the whole singed with the frost.

Friday, 7th. Rid to Muddy hole Plantation and finding the ground which had been twice plowed to make my experiments in was middling dry in some places, though wet in others, I tried my drill or Barrel plow; which requiring some alteration in the harrow, obliged me to bring it to the Smiths shop. This suspended any further operation with it to day.

No fish caught to day, of neither Herring or Shad.

Set my Brick layer to getting sand and preparing for laying brick on Monday.

Mr. George Washington went to Alexandria and engaged 100,000 Herrings to Smith and Douglas (if caught) at 5/ pr. thousand.

Saturday, 8th. Rid a little after Sun rise to Muddy [hole], to try my drill plow again which, with the alteration of the harrow yesterday, I find will fully answer my expectation, and that it drops the grains thicker, or thinner in proportion to the quantity of seed in the Barrel. The less there is in it the faster it issues from the holes. The weight of a quantity in the barrel, occasions (I presume) a pressure on the holes that do not admit of a free discharge of the Seed through them, whereas a small quantity (sufficient at all times to cover the bottom of the barrel) is, in a manner sifted through them by the revolution of the Barrel.

I sowed with the barrel to day, in drills, about 3 pints of a white well looking Oat, brought from Carolina last year

by G. A. Washington in 7 rows running from the path leading from the Overseer's Ho. to the Quarter to the West fence of the field, which the ground was in the best order. Afterwards I sowed in such other parts of the adjoining ground as could at any rate be worked the common Oat of the Eastern shore (after picking out the Wild onion); but in truth nothing but the late Season could warrant sowing in ground so wet.

None of the ground in wch. these Oats were sown had received any improvement from Manure, but all of it had been twice plowed, and then listed, after which the harrow had gone over it twice before the seed harrowing. This, had it not been for the frequent rains, etca., which has fallen would have put the ground in fine order.

Transplanted as many of the large Magnolio into the Grove at the No. end of the Ho. as made the number there.

Also transplanted from the same box, 9 of the live Oak, viz. 4 in the bends of the lawn before the House, and five on the East of the grove (within the yard) at the No. end of the House.

Plowed up my last years turnip patch (at home) to sow Orchard grass seeds in.

No fish caught to day.

Sunday, 9th. Mr. Dalby of Alexandria came here to dinner, and returned afterwards. In the afternoon Doctr. Stuart and his Sister arrived and stayed all Night.

Monday, 10th. Began my brick work to day, first taking away the foundations of the Garden Houses as they were first placed, and repairing the damages in the Walls occasioned by their removal; and also began to put up my pallisades (on the Wall).

Completed Sowing with 20 quarts the drilled Oats in the ground intended for experiments at Muddy hole;

which amounted to 38 rows, ten feet apart (including the parts of rows sowed on Saturday last). In the afternoon I began to sow Barley, but finding there were too many Seeds discharged from the Barrel, notwithstanding I stopped every other hole, I discontinued the sowing until another Barrel with smaller holes cd. be prepared. The ground, in which these Oats have been sowed and in which the Barley seeding had commenced, has been plowed, cross plowed, listed (as it is called, that is 3 furrow ridges) and twice harrowed before the drill plow was put into it; with this the furrow is made and the seed harrowed in with the manure afterwds.

Began also to sow the Siberian Wheat which I had obtained from Baltimore by means of Colo. Tilghman, at the Ferry Plantation in the ground laid apart there for experiments. This was done upon ground which, sometime ago, had been marked off by furrows 8 feet apart, in which a second furrow had been run to deepen them. 4 furrows were then plowed to these, which made the whole 5 furrow Ridges. These being done sometime ago, and by frequent rains prevented sowing at the time intended had got hard, I therefore before the seed was sowed, split these Ridges again, by running twice in the same furrow. After wch. I harrowed the ridges, and where the ground was lumpy run my spiked Roller with the Harrow at the tale over it, wch. I found very efficacious in breaking the clods and pulverising the earth; and wd. have done it perfectly if there had not been too much moisture remaining of the late rains; after this harrowing and rolling where necessary, I sowed the Wheat with my drill plow on the reduced ridges in rows 8 feet apart. But I should have observed that, after the ridges were split by the furrow in the middle, and before the furrows were closed again by the harrow, I sprinkled a little dung in them. Finding the barrel discharged the Wheat too fast, I did, after sowing 9 of the

shortest (for we began at the furthest corner of the field) rows, I stopped every other hole in the barrel, and in this manner sowed 5 rows more, and still thinking the seed too liberally bestowed, I stopped 2, and left one hole open, alternately, by which 4 out of 12 holes only, discharged seeds; and this, as I had taken the strap of leather off, seemed to give seed enough (though not so regular as were to be wished) to the ground.

Doctr. Stuart and His Sister left this after breakfast (passing through Maryland) to his father's, from whence the Doctor is to proceed to Richmond.

Tuesday, 11th. Sowing the Siberian Wheat to day, as yesterday, at the ferry.

And sowed 26 rows of Barley (except a little at each end wch. was too wet for the ground to be worked) at Muddy hole; below, and adjoining to the Oats. This was done with 12 quarts of Seed and in the manner, and in ground prepared as mentioned yesterday. The ends of these rows are to be sowed as soon as the ground is in order for it.

Rid to the Fishing Landing, where 30 odd Shad had just been caught at a haul — not more than 2 or 3 had been taken at one time before, this spring — and from hence I went to Muddy hole and river Plantations; at the last of which the Overseer after 3 plowings and 3 harrowings had begun to sow in drills three foot apart, and abt. nine Inches asunder in the rows, the Seed (without name) saved from those given to me by Colo. Archibd. Cary last year.

In the Section in my botanical garden, next the House nearest the circle, I planted 4 rows of the Laurel berries in the grd. where, last year I had planted the Physic nuts, etca. — now dead — and next to these in the same section are [] rows of the pride of China. The rows of both these kinds are 16 inches asunder and the Seeds 6 inches apart in the Rows.

Perceived the last Sowed Oats at Dogue run and those wch. had been sowed in the Neck, were coming up.

Wednesday, 12th. Rid to the fishing landing, ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole plantations.

Finished at the first sowing the ground intended for experiments, with the Siberian wheat. This spot contained 16 A., 1 R., 24 P., including the fodder Ho., etca., which would reduce the cultivated Land to 10 acres at most. To sow these it took about 18 quarts of wheat. Of the last rows [] had no dung in them, and those adjoining for [] back were only manured in the poorest parts. The last rows were listed wholly, as they were too hard baked for the harrow and roller notwithstanding the middle furrow, to make much impression on them.

At Dogue run I set the plows to listing the ground which had before been listed, in order to commence my experiments there on Friday. Began in the first long row by Wade's houses.

At Muddy hole, I sowed two rows of the Albany Peas in Drills 10 feet asunder (the same as the Oats and Barley), but conceiving they could not, for want of support, be kept prevented from falling when they shd. come near their growth, I did not incline to sow any more in this way but to put all the ground between these two rows and the fence along the road in broadcast. The ground in which these Peas were sowed was managed exactly as that had been in which the Barley and oats (at this place) was.

Next, adjoining the Oats, on the upper, or South side, I plowed 10 rows for Carrots two deep furrows in the same place for each, over and above all the plowings and harrowings which the Barley, etca., had received. In the alternate rows, beginning at the second from the Oats, I sprinkled dung all along the bottom of the furrows, and covered it with the earth which had been thrown out of them, with

Hoes. The same was done with the rows in which there was no dung. This kind of land, and management would do for Carrots; and next the difference between manuring in this manner, which was pretty liberal, and without — on the top of the ridge, made over the furrow, I directed 2 or 3 Seeds to be dropped in a place at the distance of 10 Inches from each other, and to be scratched in with a thorny bush.

Planted in the No. West section of my Botanical Garden 5 rows more of the Seeds of the pride of China in the same manner those were done yesterday.

Thursday, 13th. Rid to Muddy hole and river Plantations. The Carrots at the first were sowed as directed yesterday, and at the latter I began to sow Oats in rows ten feet a part in grd. managed in the following manner: 1 marked off with single furrows, 2 another and deep furrow in this, 3 four to these, 4 plowed agn. in the same manner, 5 a single furrow in the middle of these, 6 Dung sprinkled in this furrow, 7 the great harrow over all these, and 8th the seed sowed after the harrow with the drill or barrel plow, and harrowed in with the harrow at the tale of it. Note. It should have been observed that the field intended for experiment at this Plantation is divided into 3 parts, by bouting Rows running crossways, and that dung and the *last* single furrow are (at least for the present) bestowed on one of these only, viz. that part which is most westerly, or nearest the Barn.

Doctr. Craik, and Mr. and Mrs. Lund Washington dined here. The first stayed all Night.

Friday, 14th. Doctr. La Moyeur sent for his Black horse and Chaise which his Servant carried away to day.

Doctr. Craik went to Alexanda. after breakfast and returned again at Night.

Rid to my Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue run, and ferry in the forenoon, and walked to that in the Neck in the afternoon. At the first I finished sowing the Barley rows, and harrowed the ground intended for the Albany Peas in broadcast. At the next I began to sow the remainder (14 qts.) of the Siberian Wheat, which was left at the Ferry, and began to run deep furrows in the middle and to make five furrow ridges in a piece of the corn grd. for Carrots. At the ferry I ordered a piece of ground to be plowed for Corn and Potatoes. And in the Neck, after sowing 24 rows of Oats upon a Dunged furrow, I ordered the discontinuance, and to begin sowing Barley adjoining.

Sowed, or rather planted at this place, 11 rows of the Seeds saved from those had last year from Colo. Archd. Cary, and 35 rows (next to them) of rib-grass seed. These rows were 3 feet asunder, and the seeds (3 or 4) dropped at about 1 foot apart, in the rows.

Saturday, 15th. Rid to Alexandria to a meeting of the Directors of the Potomack Company, who had advertized their intention of contracting on this day with whomsoever should bid lowest for the supplying the Company's Servants with Rations for one year. A Mr. Abel Westfall of Berkeley having done this, the Contract was made with him accordingly. Dined at Mrs. Lyle's tavern and returned in the Evening, when I found Mrs. Stuart and her Children and Mr. Arthur Lee here.

In my way to town, I passed through Muddy hole and Dogue run Plantations. At the first I ordered the ground which was harrowed yesterday for Pease to be sowed with 6 Bushels, which was accordingly done, and harrowed in. The qty. was but little more than an acre and an half.

Finished at the latter, sowing the Siberian Wheat in 34 rows. This ground had been only twice plowed into 5

furrow ridges and then harrowed before seeding; 8 of the first rows counting, from Wade's Houses had been rolled; but wanting the Oxen to cart dung I was obliged to discontinue the rolling. These workings, with the harrowing at the tale of the barrel plow, did not put the ground by any means in such order as it ought to be for this grain, but the wet spring, and late season, would not allow me to do more to it.

Sowed in the Neck, 23 rows of Burnet Seed in part of what was intended there, alongside the rib grass. This was put in exactly as the rib-grass and other grass were, that is in rows 3 feet asunder and about 1 foot apart in the rows.

Plowed a piece of ground containing two acres, at the ferry plantation, for the purposes of drilling corn, and planting Irish Potatoes in it. This was plowed flush and intended to be cross plowed.

Sunday, 16th. Mr. Lee went away after breakfast.

Very few fish caught at my fishery at the ferry.

Monday, 17th. Went up to Alexandria to an election of Delegates to represent this County; when the suffrages of the people fell upon Colo. Mason and Doctr. Stuart; on the first contrary to, and after he had declared he could not serve, and on the other whilst he was absent at Richmond. Captn. West who had offered his Services and was present, was rejected. The votes were: for Colo. Mason 109, for Doctr. Stuart 105, and for Captn. West 84.

Returned home in the evening.

Tuesday, 18th. Rid to Muddy hole, Dogue run, and ferry plantations; and to the fishing Landing. At the first they had begun to plant the Irish Potatoes in drills; 4 rows were allotted for this purpose 2 whereof had a handful of dung

put upon each set, which were at the distance of one foot in the rows. The other 2 rows were planted at the same distance, and in the same manner, excepting in the article of manure, there being none in the Rows. At Dogue run I began to sow barley in drills, next the Siberian Wheat, and had (beginning at the Meadow fence, and extending towards the old Houses) sowed 11 rows (long and short) in Carrots; 6 of which, beginning with the first, and so on alternately, were dunged; the others not. At the Ferry plantation little progress had been made in breaking up the ground for Potatoes, etca., it being hard occasioned by the late drying and baking winds. At the Fishing landing little success had attended the Seins.

One of Mr. Rawlin's ¹ workmen (who came here in Saturday last in the Baltimore packet) began lathing my New room.

In the evening Mr. Danl. Brent and Mr. Wm. Stuart came in and stayed all night.

Sent my boat to Alexandria this evening in order to bring down Flagstones, and Fish Barrels, etca.

Wednesday, 19th. Rid to my Ferry Plantation, and walked into the Neck. At the first few fish were caught; at the latter I found (including what was sowed yesterday and Saturday) 50 rows of Burnet Seed planted along side, and in the same manner of, the rib grass, and that they had begun to sow the Saintfoin Seed. Sowing Barley yesterday and this day at this plantation, 30 rows of which had been put in before I got there, every other one of which had a slight sprinkling only of dung, not being able to get it out fast enough to manure *every* row.

Mrs. Stuart and her Children went away immediately after breakfast, as did Mr. Brent and Mr. Stuart.

A Mr. Chavillie and another Gentleman (the first intro-

¹ John Rawlins.

duced by the Governor) came just as we had done breakfast, and after one had been got for them proceeded on their journey to the Northward.

Before dinner, Mr. Rollins ¹ and a Mr. Tharpe ² came here. The first being the undertaker of my new room intended to commence the work, and then to leave it under the conduct of the latter, which I objected to for reasons which I assigned him; he therefore determined to return and come back prepared to attend to it himself.

My Muddy hole People having compleated all the work that was to do except with the Plows before Corn planting in the common way, came to get the New Ground in front of the House in order for that grain by fencing, &c.

Major Washington's Charles returned from New Kent with the Calves and Jenny he went for.

Thursday, 20th. Rid to Muddy hole, Dogue run, and ferry Plantations, and to the fishery at the latter.

Finished Sowing 50 Rows of Barley in drills, at Dogue run, which took 35 quarts of Seed. The ground for this grain was twice plowed into 5 furrow ridges harrowed in with the small harrow at the tale of it. Next adjoining the Barley I left 40 Rows for the common country Pea, and then began to plow 10 rows for Potatoes, wch. I directed to be managed in the same manner, previous to setting, with those for the Barley, with the addition of a furrow after harrowing, to plant the Potatoes which are to be covered with the plow. These Potatoes are to be planted without dung, because it could not be got out in time, the Oxen being employed with the roller.

The Shad began to run to day, having caught 100, 200, and 300 at a draught.

My Jack covered a she Mule to day, after which two Mares.

¹ John Rawlins.

² Richard Tharp.

My Boat which went up the day before yesterday, returned this evening only, being detained by the north East wind.

Mr. Battaile Muse ¹ came here before dinner on business respecting the Collection of my rents and with his Accts. wch were just looked at, but not settled.

My People from the Ferry began to work in the New ground in front of the House to day.

Sowed a Bushel of Orchard Grass Seed (given to me by Wm. Fitzhugh Esqr. of Chatham) in my last year's Turnip patch at the home house. The qty. of ground might be about [] of an Acre, the grd. in which these Seeds were sown had been twice plowed, chopped over, and the clods broken with Hoes, and twice harrowed afterwards. The seeds were scratched in with a light Bush.

Friday, 21st. About Noon, one James Bloxham, an English Farmer from Gloucestershire arrived here with letters of Recommendation from Colo. Fairfax (and others to him) consequent of my request to him to enquire after such a person.

Saturday, 22d. Rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue run, and Ferry. At the first fixed my Barrels for Planting Corn and Pease, but the ground was too wet to use them. The heavy rain last night washed all the Albany Pease which had been sowed in broadcast out of the ground. Those which had been sowed a day or two before in Drills were coming up as the Oats and Barley also were.

At the Ferry Plantation the Siberian Wheat was here and there coming up.

At the Neck Plantation finished before the rain sowing all my Barley, [] Rows with [] quarts. Also finished

¹ 'By Battaile Muse on Accot. of his Colln. of Rents £15.0.0.' (*Cash Account.*)

sowing the Burnet and Saintfoin rows of the former and [] of the latter, part of which were short; and having some of these Seed and those of the rib grass left I sowed 8 of the Intervals of these with it in broadcast, 11 ditto of the Saintfoin, and 3 ditto of the Burnet in the same manner. Very little fish caught to day or yesterday.

Colo. Fitzhugh and his Son Willm. came here in the Afternoon.

Sunday, 23d. Set off after breakfast, on a Journey to Richmond, to acknowledge in the General Court some Deeds for Land sold by me as Attorney for Colo. George Mercer, which, it seems, could not be executed without. Dined at Dumfries and lodged at Stafford Court House.

Very cloudy all day with but little wind and that from the Eastward.

Monday, 24th. A good deal of rain having fallen in the Night, and it continuing to do so till after 6 oclk. I was detained till near seven. When I set out, dined at my Mother's ¹ in Fredericksburgh, and proceeded afterwards to and lodged at General Spotswood's.

Conversing with General Spotswood on the growth, and preservation of the Pumpion, he informed me that a person in his neighbourhood who had raised of them many years has preserved them by splitting them in two, taking out the inside, and then turning the rind part up (placed on rails or poles) for two or 3 days to dry. After wch. they were packed in straw, a layer of one and a layer of the [] alternately, by which means they keep well throught the Winter.

Tuesday, 25th. Set out from General Spotswood's about Sun rising and breakfasted at the Bowling green.

¹ 'By My Mother Advanced on Act. £7. 0. 0.' (*Cash Account.*)

Where, meeting with Mr. Holmes (a neat, and supposed to be a good farmer) I was informed by him that from experience he had found that the best method of raising clover (in this Country) was to sow it on Wheat in Jany. when the ground was lightly covered with snow, having never failed by this practice — when fall sowing is often injured by wet and frost, and spring sowing by drought.

Dined at Rawlins and lodged at Hanover Court House.

Wednesday, 26th. Left Hanover Court Ho. about Sunrise; breakfasted at Norval's tavern, and reached Richmond about Noon. Put up at Formicalo's Tavern, where by invitation, I dined with the Judges of the General Court.

Meeting with Mr. Thos. Newton of Norfolk, he informed me that Mr. Neil Jamieson¹ late of that place, now a Merchant in New York, was Executor of Jno. Shaw (also of Norfolk) who was possessed of the Books of Messrs. Balfour and Barraud, and to whom he advised me to apply, thinking it probable that I might obtain, a list of the Ballances due to that House and thereby recover what was due to me therefrom.²

Thursday, 27th. Acknowledged in the General Court a Deed to James Mercer, Esqr. for the Lotts he and I bought at the Sale of his deceased Brother Colo. George Mercer, and received a reconveyance from him of my part thereof.

Road with the Lieutt. Govr. Randolph, the Attorney General, and Mr. George Webb, to view the cut which had commenced between Westham and Richmond for the improvement of the Navigation of James River. Going late,

¹ Neil Jamieson was a large importer, of Norfolk. He had evinced loyalist tendencies during the Revolution and, after the war, found it advisable to change his residence.

² Balfour and Barraud had been the agents that attended to shipping Washington's flour to Hanbury & Co., London.

and returning to dinner left but little time to view the work, or to form a judgment of the plan of it.

Dined, and spent the evening at the Attorney's. Lodged again at Formicalo's.

Friday, 28th. Left Richmond about 6 O'clock. Breakfasted at Norval's, dined at Rawlins, and lodged at the Bowling [Green].

Saturday, 29th. Set out from the Bowling green a little after Sun-rising. Breakfasted at General Spotswood's, Dined at my Sister Lewis's in Fredericksburgh, and spent the evening at Mr. Fitzhugh's of Chatham.

One of my Chariot Horses having got lame going to Richmond, but forced back to Genl. Spotswood's (not however without much difficulty), was left there with a Servant, who was ordered to proceed with him or a horse which Genl. Spotswood would lend in two days.

Sunday, 30th. Set off about Sun rising from Mr. Fitzhughs, breakfasted at Dumfries, and reached home to a late Dinner.

Where I found 3 of Mr. Rawlins Men; two of whom (one a Mr. Thorpe, director of the Work) had been since Sunday last; and had employed many hands in preparing Mortar and other Materials. That the Fishing (especially at the home house wch. had been discontinued on Acct. of the failure of the Sein) had not been successful. That Colo. Gilpin's Scow had been sent up on Monday last. That the Rains had retarded the plows a good deal and had prevented sowing Pease, or planting Corn. That the Irish Potatoes had been planted on Tuesday last at Dogue Run, though the ground was wet, to prevent the rot destroying them all; the wetness of the ground prevented the use of the roller in this operation, but the want of it was supplied

by Hoes, to break the clods. That the Timothy Seed intended for the Oat ground at Dogue run had been sowed on it (and for want of the roller had been scratched in with a Bush, which was wrong, as the Oats were thereby torn and injured.) That the Neck People had, on Wednesday last, finished drilling the Barley at that place in 66 rows, every other of which had a sprinkling of Dung in the middle furrow. That my Drilled Wheat from the Cape had been propped to prevent its lodging. That the common Chesnut (which it is apprehended are spoiled) was planted below the hops on Thursday last. That the Irish Potatoes had been planted at the River plantation on Thursday last in ten rows, each alternate one being dunged as those at Muddy hole were. That the ground which had been prepared for Flax was sown therewith on Friday last and harrowed in, then with clover seed and the whole rolled. That 14 rows of the live and Water Oak Acorns had been planted on the same day in my botanical garden, but it was not expected that any, or very few would come up. That every other row of Corn in the cut intended for experiment at Muddy hole was planted by the Drill plow with the early Corn from New York, and that all the Peas (consisting of two kinds) had been planted at the same place and in the same cut. That when the worked ground was too wet to stir, or touch, the plows were employed in listing for Corn, and lastly, that the Mercury during my absence had stood thus, viz.

	Morng	Noon	Night
23d. Sunday.....	54....	60....	58
24. Monday.....	53....	60....	59
25. Tuesday.....	56....	68....	66
26. Wednesday.....	92....	69....	66
27. Thursday.....	66....	69....	64
28. Friday.....	64....	70....	68
29. Saturday.....	63....	67....	60
30. Sunday.....	52....	60....	59

MAY

Monday, first. Rid to the Fishing landing, and to the Plantations at the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole; perceived the Siberian Wheat at the two first had come up thinly, which I attributed partly to bad seed, and partly to too thin sowing, as the Oats and Barley at all three were also too thin, and where the ground had been wet, and hard baked none appeared.

Set them to drilling the common Corn at Muddy hole, and to Sowing Clover Seed in the Neck on the Oats. The ground for which was in bad order; being so hard baked that the roller could make no impression on it. This business has been unseasonably delayed, partly from the late arrival of the Seed from Phila., and partly from neglect and unfavourable weather after it did arrive.

But indifferent luck in fishing to day.

Planted, or rather transplanted, from the Box sent me by Colo. Washington of So. Carolina, 6 of the Sweet scented, or aromatic shrub in my Shrubberies, on each side the Serpentine walks on this (or East) side of the Garden gate. The rest of these shrubs I suffered to remain in the Box, as they were beginning to shoot forth buds and it might be too late to remove them.

Tuesday, 2d. Rid by Muddy hole plantation into the Neck. At the first finished drilling the common corn, and ordered the plow to be sent to Dogue run. At the latter I began to Drill the common corn in the furthest cut, next the river, opposite to Mr. Digges's, and continued the sowing of clover there. Could perceive no vegetation in the Burnet, Saint foin, or other grass which had been sown at this place.

Planted Pumpions at Morris's near the old Houses in which Mrs. Wade lived; in a light sandy soil, 10 feet apart.

Began to harrow the ground at Morris's, that is Dogue run plantation, in which the bad clover seed was sown last fall in order to sprinkle Timothy Seed on it.

Planted 140 Seed sent me by Colo. Wm. Washington and said by him to be the seed of the large Magnolio, or Laurel of Carolina, in boxes No. 4, 5, and 6 near the green house.

Also 21 of the Illinois Nuts; compleating at the No. end, the piece of a row in my Botanical Garden in which on the [] of [] I put Gloucester hiccory Nuts.

Wednesday, 3d. Rid to Muddy hole, Dogue run, and Ferry plantations. Also the fishing landing.

At the 1st hoed up the sunken and cold places in which Barley had been sowed and was rotten, in order to resow them.

At the next I had the ground which was harrowed yesterday and cross harrowing to day sowed with Seeds from my Hay loft, which I directed to be again harrowed to cover the seed and more effectually loosen the Earth. Also began to drill Peas at this — the large sort, next the Barley.

Caught a good many Fish yesterday, but not many to day.

Planted two rows of the everlasting Peas in my botanical Garden; in the section which contained the guinea grass that would not stand the Winter.

Also 2 rows of the Acorn of the live and Water Oak in the same garden, adjoining the row which has the hiccory and Illinois Nuts.

And in box No. 9 in the Garden by the green House was put a pistatia Nut given to me by Colo. Mead.

Perceived the Seeds of the Honey locust to be coming up, irregularly — whether owing to their being shallowest planted, hardness of the ground, or not I cannot say.

Also observed the clover and Orchard grass seed which had been sown under the Pines in the pine grove for an experiment, was coming up pretty thick.

Thursday, 4th. Doctr. Craik came here in the forenoon, and crossed the river after Dinner on his return home, at wch. time I set out for Abingdon in order (tomorrow) to Survey my 4 Mile Run Tract; on which I had cause to apprehend trespasses had been committed.

Sent Majr. Washington to Town on Business where he and Mr. Lund Washington engaged to Mr. Watson ¹ 100 Barrls. of my Flour, to be delivered next Week at 32/pr. Barrl.

Not many fish caught to day at the Ferry.

Made good the missing Barley at Muddy hole.

Friday, 5th. Set out early from Abingdon, and beginning at the upper corner my Land (on 4 Miles run) a little below an old Mill; I ran the Tract agreeable to the courses and distances of a Plat made thereof by John Hough, in the year 1766 (Novr.) in presence of Colo. Carlyle and Mr. James Mercer. Not having Hough's field Notes, and no Corner trees being noted in His *Plat*, I did not attempt to look for lines; but allowing one degree for the variation of Compass since the survey, above mentioned, was made, I run the courses and distances only; ² and was unable for want of time, to do more than run the lines that brot. me to the run again; the Meanders of wch. must be run at some other time, in order to ascertain with precision the quantity of Land which is contained. Upon the whole I found this tract fully equal to my expectations. The whole

¹ Josiah Watson & Co., of Alexandria.

² A facsimile of Washington's survey of this Four-Mile Run tract is given in G. W. P. Custis's *Recollections of Washington* (New York, 1860), p. 445; but whether the survey there reproduced was made at this date, May 5, 1786, or April 3, 1799 (*q.v.*) cannot be established.

of it is well wooded, some part is pretty well timbered; and generally speaking, it is level. About the main road, on the South side of the tract, trespasses (on the wood) had been made but in a degree less than I expected to find; and as I run the lines, as set down by Hough, with the variation, I run into the field lately Colo. Carlyle's (now Whiting's) so far as to cut off 12 or 15 Acres of his inclosure; and made the plat close very well to the run.

Returned at Night to Abingdon, being attended in the labours of the day, by Doctr. Stuart.

Saturday, 6th. After an early breakfast I set out on my return home, and taking Muddy hole in my way returned about 10 O'clock.

Found that all the large (Indian) Peas I had, had been sown with the drill plow yesterday, at Dogue run whh. only compleated 8 rows; after which, they proceeded to sow the small black eyed pea and finished with them.

That the drill plow in the Neck had finished planting the common Corn in the Cut in which it had first begun, and was proceeding in the one adjoining, and that the Muddy hole people had just begun to Hoe the New ground (for Corn) in front of the Home House.

That the ferry Plantation had begun to Plant Corn in the common mode, for want of the drill plow, which was otherwise engaged.

And that an indifferent hd. had been made of catching Fish since Wednesday last.

Sunday, 7th. Mr. Porter, Mr. Murray, (young) Mr. Bowen, and a Captain Aitkins¹ came (by invitation) to dine with us to day, and returned to Alexandria in the Evening. Just as we were about to set down to Dinner Doctr. Craik, his Wife, Son William, and daughters (Miss

¹ Aitkinson? (See June 2, *infra*.)

Craik and Miss Nancy) came in. Dined and stayed all Night.

Monday, 8th. Rid to Muddy hole and Dogue run. Began at the first to cross the lists in order to Plant corn. The early Corn, and Indian Pease at this place were coming up.

Sent a Carpenter to put a new axle and do some other repairs to the Barrel plow at Dogue run.

Sowed 3 rows of the Border grass seeds in the inclosure behind the stables, adjoining to, and just below the Cape Wheat and next the fence. Next to these was near a row of Yellow clover. The first was given to me by Colo. Fitzhugh of Maryland and the other by Colo. Chas. Carter of Ludlow. These rows were two feet apart, and the Seeds sown very thin in the rows, that the more Seeds might be saved from them for the next season.

On Saturday last the dead Cedars in my Shrubberies were replaced by live ones just taken up.

Doctr. Craik, Wife and family went away after breakfast.

In the Evening a Captn. Whaley from Yohiogany came in on some business respecting the Affairs of the deceased Val. Crawford, and Hugh Stephenson,¹ to whom I gave, under cover to Thos. Smith, Esqr., (my Lawyer in that Country) a Bill of sale and the letter whh. enclosed it, which the said Val. Crawford had sent me in the Mo. of May, 1774., as security for what he owed me, and to indemnify me for my engagements in his behalf, to see if they were valid, and would cover the debt he owed me, as they never had been recorded. I also gave him the Statement of my Acct. with Colo. John, and the deceased Hugh Stephenson, which, in behalf of the latter, he promised to

¹ Hugh Stephenson, half-brother of Captain William Crawford and captain of a Virginia Rifle Regiment in the Revolutionary War.

pay, and to obtain the other moiety from the first. He also promised to send in my Negros which had been hired to Gilbert Simpson, or bring them in himself. In consequence of this assurance I gave him an order on Majr. Freeman ¹ to deliver them.

Tuesday, 9th. Rid to all my Plantations between Breakfast and dinner.

Found the Flax in the Neck had come up, and full thick; and that the grass seeds (rather Millet), obtnd. from Colo. Cary, had come up; but none of the Saintfoin, Burnet, or rib grass appeared to be springing. Finished planting, with the Barrel plow, the early corn in the furthest cut in the field for experiments, in the Neck; and not having enough to compleat another cut in the same field I ordered all the remaining part of it to be drilled with common corn. Accordingly, about Noon, the intermediate rows in the middle cut which had been left for the early corn were begun to be planted with the other. At this plantation also the People had begun to break up the Intervals in the Most grassy places between the listed ground, but I set a plough to crossing in order to plant Corn in the common way in the field intended for this purpose.

At Dogue run, the hands there were also hoeing up the intervals between the Corn rows.

The ground, by the heavy rains which fell about 14 days ago, dry weather, and baking Winds since, had got immensely hard; so as that Seeds which were not already up, could not force through it; and those which had come up previously could not grow.

Captn. Whaley went away before breakfast.

Mr. George Digges, and Miss Digges, came to dinner and returned in the Evening, at which time my Brother John came in from Berkeley.

¹ Major Thomas Freeman, of Red Stone.

Wednesday, 10th. My Brother and Mr. George Washington went up to Town after Breakfast and did not return till the Evening.

I rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue run, and Ferry, also to the fishing landing. At the first I found the early corn had come up very well, except where the ground was hard, and baked; but that the birds were pulling it up fast. The Peas were also coming up, but not so regular as the Corn and of the Siberian Wheat, Barley, and Oats, which had come up, some were cut off by a bug, and the rest looked indifferently, and in many places very thin; the Barley, which looked strong and of a good colour at first, had got to be yellow, and the ends of the blades in a manner dead. No appearance yet of the Potatoes and Carrots coming up.

Ordered Morris (at Dogue run) to discontinue his 5 furrow lists, and go on with three, as I might (the Season advancing fast) get my Corn in the ground before it was too late.

The Fish appeared to be quite done running, but I ordered my People to continue at the landing trying a haul on every tide untill Saturday, and between while's to attempt clearing a landing for Sein hauling above the Ferry landing, where the Channel approaches nearer the Shore and it is thought good for Shad.

Began to plant Corn in the common way at Muddy hole.

Thursday, 11th. My Brother set off on his return home after breakfast, passing through Maryland.

Mrs. Washington and Fanny Washington went up to Abingdon and returned in the Evening.

I rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue run, and Ferry between Breakfast and dinner, and crossed to that in the Neck after dinner. The ground, particularly where they were drilling Corn at the last, and indeed at Dogue

run, wch. was stiff and had been plowed when it was too wet, was astonishingly hard and lumpy; and in which it is much to be feared the Corn will never rise.

Friday, 12th. Finished about Noon planting with the Barrel Plow the middle cut in my field of experiments at the River Plantation.

Saturday, 13th. I rid to Muddy hole, Dogue run, and Ferry plantations; and to the fishery at the latter.

Ordered my People to quit hauling, and bring home my Seins.

Finished (yesterday evening) planting Corn with the barrel plow, in the Cut intended for experiments at Dogue run.

Also finished planting Corn in the Middle cut (this day abt. 3 Oclock) at Muddy hole, in the common way, putting a little dung in each hole, in the poor parts of the ground.

The Cotton Seeds, Pumpion Seeds, and Timothy Seeds (which were sowed on the Oats) at Dogue run, were coming up.

Sunday, 14th. G. A. Washington and his Wife, and Mr. Shaw went to Pohick church, dined at Mr. L. Washington's, and returned in the Evening. Colo. Gilpin, the Revd. Mr. McQuir,¹ Mr. Hunter,² and Mr. Sanderson³ came here to dinner and returned afterwards.

Began yesterday afternoon to pen my Sheep, and Milch Cattle at the Ho. House, in the hurdles which had been made for the former.

Monday, 15th. I rid to the Plantations in the Neck, and

¹ The Reverend Mr. McQuerr, a Presbyterian minister. He later officiated in Fairfax for a brief period.

² Moses (?) Hunter, of Berkeley County.

³ Robert Sanderson, of Alexandria.

to Muddy hole. At the latter perceived the Irish Potatoes to be coming up. At the former the Plows having overtaken the dung carts (which were carrying out dung to spread in the Corn rows) I set them to plowing and planting the Peas, ordering the alternate Pea rows to be planted at the same Distance (viz 18 Inches) apart, as the Corn is — intending the intermediate ones to be drilled, that is, planted at 6 Inches apart to see which mode will be most productive.

A [] with whom an agreement was made to bring a load of good and clean Shells, having brought very bad and dirty ones, they were refused.

Majr. G. Washington went up to Alexandria on business. Doctr. Craik returned with him (by desire) in the afternoon to visit Mrs. Washington, who had been troubled for several days with a pain in her shoulder.

Tuesday, 16th. Doctr. Craik went away immediately after breakfast. I rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole and Dogue run. Perceived the Pease at the former had come up very indifferently and looked badly, which some of my Negros ascribed to their being planted too early, whilst the earth was too cold for this crop.

The Peas which were planted somewhat later at Morris's (Dogue run) were also coming up, as his Corn was, and much pulled up by the Birds.

The Timothy Seed sowed (on the clover field wch. had failed from the badness of the Seed and which after harrowing had been laid down in it) at Dogue run, appeared to be coming up thick.

Began to plant Corn at this Plantation yesterday in the common method. When I returned home I fd. Moses Ball, his Son John Ball, and Wm. Carlin here. The first having his effects under execution wanted to borrow money to redeem them, lent him ten pounds for this purpose.

In the Afternoon a John Halley (of Maryland) applied to rent a fishing shore of me at Sheridin's point. Requested him to make his proposals in writing and I would consider of them, and as he was the first who had applied wd. give him the preference upon equal ground.

Wednesday, 17th. At home all day; writing the best part of it.

Began where Oats had been sowed in the Neck, and the grd. had got hard bound, and the clover Seed unable to penetrate the earth and to vegitate, to harrow and roll it, to see if the clover and Oats both, would not be benefitted thereby.

Thursday, 18th. Rid to all the Plantations between breakfast and dinner. At the Ferry I found my people had finished planting corn in the common way yesterday and were preparing the small piece near the Fish House to plant with the drill (or Barrel); in which they were also beginning to plant Irish Potatoes. This piece contains a few rod over two Acres. At Dogue run, finding they would be late planting and replanting corn (for that which was first planted with the drill plow had either come up very badly, or had been destroyed by Birds) I directed, after the Cut (round Barry's houses) in which they were planting, was finished, to run a single furrow in the remainder of the other each way, and to plant it in that manner, hoeing the ground well where the Corn was dropped. Perceived the Irish Potatoes to be coming up at this Plantation. At Muddy hole they finished planting corn about 10 O'clock. At this place I tried a 3 hoed harrow which I had just made, with a single horse. Upon the whole it answered very well. The draft seemed rather hard for one horse but the late rains had made the ground heavier than usual. Ordered my Overseer at this place to take into the Barn and thresh

out, the only stack of Wheat remaining at the Plantation and to carry the grain to the Mill.

In the Neck every other Pea row had been planted with the barrel, dropping the Peas at 18 Inches apart in the rows; and five othr. rows (intermediate) on the South, were planted at 6 Inches asunder in the rows, but finding this would take more Seed than I c[oul]d spare I discontinued sowing more in this manner and return to the 18 Inch distance agn.

A Mr. Thos. Moody came here in the afternoon and paid me some money in discharge of his father's Bond to Colo. Thos. Colvil's Estate, to which I am an Exr.

John Knowles came here to work at £5 pr. month, and a pint of rum pr. day.

Friday, 19th. Rid to Muddy hole, Dogue run, and Neck Plantations; the harrow plow was stopped at the first, by the rain which fell yesterday and which had made the grd. too wet, and too heavy to use it in. At the latter, they would have finished drilling the Corn, and planting the Potatoes (the doing of which began yesterday) but for the rain which had fallen in the afternoon. It was done however early this morning; and the other spot, in which the Siberian Wht. had been sowed, was set out; to get it in order for corn. To Dogue run I sent the remains of the Barley about half a peck, to be pricked in where missing in the rows (beginning next the Wheat) at the distance of eight Inches.

Mr. Porter and Doctr. Craik Junr. came down the River in a ship b[oun]d to France. Landed and dined here and returned to Alexandria in the afternoon.

Saturday, 20th. Rid to Muddy hole and the Neck. The ground at the first having got drier, the harrow plow was again set to work in the drilled ground. Finished planting

(yesterday evening) corn in the Neck with the Barrel plow and set about sowing pease there again.

Finished planting with corn the cur at Dogue run, which includes the Houses that were Barry's, and began in that nearest the Overseer's House.

Having received from Holt ¹ of Williamsburg, through the hands of Mr. Dandridge, about 6 gills of the Eastern shore Peas (or as he calls them beans) so celebrated for fertilizing Land I began, and before the rain fell, planted 3 rows in the inclosure below the stables adjoining the row of yellow clover, and in a line with the Cape wheat, being a continuation of those rows (2 feet apart). The seeds were placed a foot asunder in the rows.

Monday, 22d. Rid to Muddy hole, Dogue run, and Ferry Plantations. Replanting corn at the first. Begun to day, and not on Saturday, as I have noted, to plant corn in the cut next the Overseer's house at Dogue run, where by a mistake of the Overseer, they had begun, and had planted Barley in the rows of Siberian wheat, and had done [] of them before I got there. Stopped and set them to replanting the missing parts of the Barley rows. Finished drilling the Corn at the Ferry Plantation.

Planting 10 more rows of the Eastern shore Peas, along side of those which were put in on Saturday last, and all that section with them in my Botanical garden which had the Guinea grass last year, except the 2 rows which had been before planted on the 3d. Instt. with everlasting Peas.

Seperated my rams from the Ewes at the home house, and ordered the same to be done at the Plantations.

Began to take up the pavement of the Piazza.

Tuesday, 23d. Rid to Muddy hole and Neck Plantations.

¹ William Holt.

Ordered the gr^d. allotted for Cabbages, to be prepared at both places; and plants to be taken from my garden to set it with. This preparation consisted of another listing (or plowing with three furrows) of the ground which had been before listed; leaving an intermediate row at each place for Turnips, to try which would yield most and be most profitable.

Replanting the common Corn which had been drilled at Muddy hole. Finished planting Peas with the Barrel in the Neck on Saturday last, and listing the corn ground at the same place this day for planting in the common way.

Began yesterday, with the Ferry people, to list the New ground in front of the House for Corn — with Hoes.

And this day began to lay the Flags in my Piazza — Cornelius and Tom Davis assisting.

Wednesday, 24th. At home all day. About 11 O'clock Doctr. Stuart and Mr. Lund Washington came in, dined, and returned afterwards; and in the afternoon Colo. Robt. Stith arrived (from Alexandria) and stayed all night.

Planted yesterday evening at Muddy hole about 1300 Cabbage plants, and this Morning finished the ground allotted for them at place, to do which, took in all abt. [] Plants.

Also planted this day, in the Neck, two compleat rows of the Cabbages, and the other two rows from the river fence up to the bushy pond by the other fence running Westerly, and sent plants over this evening to compleat them in the Morning.

Thursday, 25th. At home all day. Colo. Stith set off after breakfast, but turned back when it began to rain, and stayed all day and Night.

Finished planting Cabbages in the Neck; and transplanted carrots from my garden, to two of the rows at

Muddy hole, which had been sowed, or rather planted, with seed which was either put in too deep, or never vegetated. One of these rows had dung in the furrow, and the other not.

Put a Coller on a large Bull in order to break him to the draft. At first he was sulky and restive, but came to [it] by degrees.

Friday, 26th. Sent 50 Barrels of Superfine flour by the sloop *Tryal*, Peter Kirwin, to Thos. Newton junr., Esqr., to be disposed of on my Acct.

Saturday, 27th. Rid about 11 O'clock to visit the Plantations at Muddy hole and Dogue run. At the latter and in the Neck, the rain which had fallen in such quantities since Wednesday last had stopped their planting of Corn and left a little ground at each of those places unfinished.

Colo. Stith crossed the River after dinner on his return home.

Finished laying 28 courses of the pavement in the Piazza. Weather very unfavourable for it.

Sunday, 28th. The continual and excessive rains had so surcharged the Earth with Water, that abt. 40 feet of my sunk wall, near the Ice house fell down and the greater part of my cape Wheat lodged.

Monday, 29th. About 9 O'clock, Mr. Tobias Lear,¹ who had been previously engaged on a Salary of 200 dollars, to

¹ Lear acted as private secretary to Washington for many years thereafter. He was private secretary during Washington's first administration, and the friendly relation continued up to Washington's death. Lear purchased a house a short distance above Mount Vernon, on the Potomac, and was present when Washington died. He has left us the best account of that death. He was consul-general to San Domingo in 1802 and to Algiers in 1804; commissioner to negotiate peace with Tripoli in 1805. He was a clerk in the War Department in 1816, when he died, by his own hand.

live with me as a private Secretary and preceptor for Washington Custis, a year came here from New Hampshire, at which place his friends reside.

Rid to the Plantations at Dogue run and Muddy hole passing by the New ground where my ferry and Muddy [] people were Hoeing for Corn.

Found my Mill race broke in 3 or 4 places, and nearly half my Tumbling dam at the head of it, carried away by the fresh, occasioned by the immoderate rains which had fallen, and my Corn field both here and at Muddy hole, in all the low places, and in the furrows covered with Water. At both they were plowing, at the first to plant corn, and at the latter breaking up; but the water in many places followed the plows and it is to be feared that more hurt than good would result from the measure, but the backwardness of Corn planting in one instance, and rapid growth of grass in both, scarcely left a choice.

On my return found Colo. Mead ¹ here.

Found, when I was at Dogue run that Richard Burnet and Wife had been living in the House formerly Barry's, since Wednesday last.

Agreed this day with James Bloxham,² who arrived here the [] of April from England, to live with and superintend my farming business upon the terms mentioned in a specific agreement in writing.

Tuesday, 30th. Accompanied by Colo. Mead, I rid to Muddy hole and Neck Plantations to shew him my experiments in the drill husbandry, with which he seemed to be pleased.

¹ Richard Kidder Meade, of Virginia. Aide to Washington in the Revolution. Married Eliza Randolph, the aunt of John Randolph, of Roanoke.

² The agreement with Bloxham is in the Washington Papers, Library of Congress. It is entirely in Washington's handwriting and is dated May 31, 1786. It employs Bloxham as a managing husbandman of such parts of the farms as may be committed to his direction. The wage was fifty guineas, with a house, provisions, etc., and ten guineas additional with which to bring his wife and family from England.

G. A. Washington went up to Alexandria on my business and did not return till the Evening.

Wednesday, 31st. Colo. Mead left this after a very early Breakfast.

I rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole and Dogue run, by the New ground; and also went to the Mill.

At both places the Plows were at work in ground much too wet. At the first, that is Muddy hole, they were breaking up ground, and at the other (Dogue run) they were crossing for the purpose of planting Corn, which would be all in to day and in miserable order, as the ground was little other than mortar, and hills obliged to be raised to keep the grain out of the Water.

My Mill People, and Cowpers were employed in repairing the breaches made by the rain and in preventing the Water of Piney run going up the race in to Dogue run, at the Tumbling dam as it had done since the mishap to the latter.

JUNE

Thursday, 1st. Rid to my Plantations at Muddy hole and in the Neck; at the latter the People were setting Corn in the field of experiments, furthest cut. The Peas at this place have come up very indifferently, and looked badly. The Barley also did not assume the best appearance but the Oats look well. Breaking up at both these places altho' the grd. was vastly too wet for it.

Removed my Cow pen and Sheep fold at home.

Doctr. Craik was sent for to a Negro man named Adam in the Neck and to a Negro woman Amy at Muddy hole. After visiting these People and dining here he returned home.

Mr. Shaw was sent to Alexandria on my business to day and returned in the Night.

Friday, 2d. More clouds and wet weather, and less Sunshine never happened, it is thought in the same time, in this Country before. Waters run from the Hills, and stand in hollows, as in the depth of Winter; and except where there is a great mixture of sand the ground when plowed, is little other than Mortar. Yet, such is the progress of the grass, that plowing must go forward, or the Corn get smothered and lost by means of it.

Cut the young grass in the levelled part of the lawn, before the West front of the House with intention to Roll it, but the ground was too wet and soft to do it.

In the Afternoon a Captn. Aitkinson of the *Caesar*, and another Gentleman came on shore and drank Tea. The first was furnished with a horse to go to his employer Mr. Sanderson at Alexandria, the other Gentleman returned to the Ship.

Sent to Doctr. Craik informing him how Adam in the Neck did and receiving fresh directions and medicines for him. Soon after which an acct. came of his death.

Saturday, 3d. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole. At the first and last they were plowing, but the grd. was very heavy. At the other it was too wet to plow at all.

The Corn at all these places I found very much pulled up and destroyed by the Birds. The rains had so softened the ground that to do this was very easy for them.

Of the Siberian Wheat scarce any (of the little that came up) remains in the ground, and the appearance of the Barley is very indifferent, not being either of a good colour or vigorous growth; whether owing to the quantity of rain or other Causes I do not undertake to decide. It did not in the first instance, come up well. The drouth at first hurt it, and the water in many places covered it afterwards; this also happened to the Pease which cut but a poor

figure. The Potatoes in low places either never came up, or is destroyed. The Cabbage plants in general stand well, tho' in some low places these also are covered with water, and appear to be dead. The Oats seem to be in a more thriving way than any other species of the Crops and where they came up well at first have a promising look.

Sunday, 4th. Received from on board the Brig *Ann*, from Ireland, two Servant Men for whom I had agreed yesterday, viz. Thomas Ryan, a Shoemaker, and Caven Bowes a Tayler, redemptioners for 3 years service by Indenture if they could not pay each, the Sum of £12 Sterg. which sums I agreed to pay.

Geo. A. Washington set off early this Morning for Fredericksburgh. His wife and Washington Custis went to Church at Alexandria intending from thence to Abingdon. Mr. Shaw also went to Alexandria and returned in the Night.

Monday, 5th. Before breakfast, Mrs. Jenifer the Widow of Doctr. Jenifer came, and returned in the afternoon. Soon after breakfast Messrs. Sanderson, Wilson, Murray and McPherson came in; all of whom, except the latter, went away before dinner. Mr. Sanderson dined and crossed the river afterwards on his way to embark at Leonard town, Saint Mary's, for England.

Tuesday, 6th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, Muddy hole and Neck. At the first and last the People were setting and planting of corn. The ferry people finished listing with the hoes their part of the New ground in front of the House on Saturday last, and the hands belonging to Muddy hole will do the same to day.

Sheared my Sheep in the Neck this day, and rid through the Wheat and Rye at that Plantation. Found the first to

stand generally sufficiently thick on the ground, but the heads appeared very short. They were full in blossom. The lower blades generally had turned quite red, and were dead, but I did not perceive any signs of rust on them, or that the head, or Straw was injur'd thereby. The rye was much better than I ever expected it would be. Except being rather too thin (especially in places, tho' much thicker than I had any idea it ever would be) it might, upon the whole, be called a good field.

The ground at all the Plantations plowed very heavily and wet.

Began to cut the clover at the Home House (sowed April was [*sic*] year) which lay in the upper part of the field and unmixed with orchard grass.

Had the ground which had been lately listed at Dogue run for Cabbages chopped fine with the Hoes, and intended to put the plants in the ground this evening; but it was so late before the Overseer sent to my Garden for them that there was only time left to draw and carry them to the Plantation this evening.

Mr. Shaw (with my newly purchased Shoemaker to provide himself with Tools) went up to Town on my business and returned in the Afternoon.

Wednesday, 7th. Rid to the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole Plantations, and through the Wheat and rye at the first, neither of which answered my expectations. The first, besides having a small head generally, was mixed exceedingly with cheat, and the latter was much broken down with the winds and rain which had happened and abounded in white heads deficient of grain occasioned, I presume, by the heavy rains which happened while the ear was in bloom. The Wheat, it is to be hoped, will escape this disaster, as there has been little or no Wind or rain since it began to bloom which is now pretty well over.

The people at the Plantations above mentioned, were all replanting and setting Corn according to circumstances, in their drilled ground. At Muddy hole, setting took place altogether. And here also they began to replant Peas, but had not enough of the large kind to make good the deficiency, but plenty of the small, black eyed Peas.

Sheared the few sheep I had at the Ferry to day.

Fanny Washington and the two Children, Nelly and Geo. Washington, together with Miss Nancy Craik, came home yesterday whilst we were at dinner.

Thursday, 8th. Rid to the Plantations at Dogue run and Muddy hole, and to the tumbling dam of Dogue run, where I had begun with two hands from each Quarter, and two Carpenters, to repair the breaches which had been made by the late rains. After having got the Water stopped, in order to lay the Wooden frame, the run swelled so much (occasioned by the rain which fell this afternoon) as to carry away the greatest part of the earth and rendered the labour of the day of little effect.

Still setting and replanting corn at Dogue run and Muddy hole in the Drilled fields, the last of which with replanting pease in the same would be compleated this day.

Rid through my Rye at Muddy hole, which would have been fully equal to what might have been expected from the gr[oun]d had it not been for the rains which had broken down and tangled the straw and occasioned a number of white, and unfilled heads.

The eastern shore Peas (according to the information of my Overseer in the Neck) were sowed yesterday (by the barrel plow) in the ground which had been put in rib wort (that never came up.) There were 10 rows of the Peas and a little being left I ordered him to dibble in what remained in additional rows.

Cut all the Clover at the Ho. House to day, and the small spots of grass round the Sweet brier Circles; also some under the Trees at the No. end of the House by the Smith's shop to day. And put the clover in wind rows except the part last cut.

Mr. Wallace came here to dinner and stayed all Night.

Friday, 9th. Mr. Wallace went away after breakfast — and I rid to Muddy hole and River Plantations. The heaviness of the Plowing, and wetness of the land had encreased by the late rains. Nothing indeed but the backwardness of the season and rapid growth of the grass and Weeds could justify working ground in the condition the plowed land is.

Passed through the Wheat at Muddy hole this day. Found it, upon the whole, as good as was to be expected from the impoverished state of the land. Though there is a good deal of Cheat in the freshest part of the ground and the speck (blasted grains) more or less in all. Finished replanting the Corn and Peas in the drilled ground at Muddy hole this Morning about nine oclock, and not yesterday as was expected, and began to replant corn in the Cut adjoining.

The drilled Corn in the Neck had also been gone over, and the people were replanting in the other field, tho' by much too wet for such business.

Agreed this day with Mr. Tharpe to do my Plaistering in any of the rooms in or abt. the house and to repair the lathing at 7d. pr. Square yard.

Got all the clover hay into small cocks this afternoon.

Mr. Shaw went up to Town to day on my business and returned in the Evening.

Saturday, 10th. Rid to the Plantations at Muddy hoie, Dogue run, and Ferry. Took the Mill in the way. Finished

replanting Corn this morning at the Ferry wholly, and yesterday at Dogue run in the ground which was drilled. Began to hoe corn at the Ferry (on the hill) which is the first plantation in order for it, and here it ought to have followed the plows, the work of which is backward on acct. of their having been stopped.

Turned the Cocks of clover hay to day, and put all the rest of the grass except that which was cut this afternoon late into Cocks.

Major Washington returned in the Afternoon from Fredericksburgh.

In my ride to day I visited the labourers at the Tumbling dam; find it will employ them the greatest part of next week. We'd with the hoes, the Millet or Corn grass in the Neck to day.

Sunday, 11th. Sometime after Candles were lighted Colo. Senf¹ came in.

Monday, 12th. I rid to the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole Plantations, and to the People who were working at the Tumbling Dam.

Finished replanting Corn at Muddy hole on Saturday last and began late in the Afternoon of that day to hoe the drilled Corn at that place. Also finished breaking up the cut of drilled Corn nearest the Barn, which compleated the last breaking up of the whole corn ground at that Plantation.

Began to cut the Meadow near the Wood, at Dogue run about 10 Oclock to day, and got all the clover and other Hay into large Cocks this afternoon.

Tuesday, 13th. Rid to the River, Muddy hole, and Dogue

¹ Colonel Christian Senff, an engineer officer, who had been with Gates in the Southern campaign.

run Plantations. At the first found the plows in the Eastern-most cut of drilled Corn; where they had begun yesterday morning and were going over it the 2d time. The hoes, which had got into it yesterday about 2 O'clock (after having finished replanting Corn), were following in the same cut. The plows would get through it about Noon, and the hoes nearly, if not quite, by night.

Found the Flax just beginning to blossom at this place where it was rankest.

At Muddy hole the plows had this morning finished breaking up and were beginning to cross plow in the cut next the drilled corn.

At Dogue run the people would but just finish replanting corn by Night and would begin to weed with the hoes the drill Corn on the East side of the field, where the Potatoes were planted.

Finished cutting the Meadow (into which 5 Mowers went yesterday) 3 or 4 O'clock.

Stopped the Water of Dogue run at the Tumbling dam to day and turned into the Race.

On my return home found Judge Harrison ¹ of Maryland and Mr. Rawlins both here, the last of whom went away after dinner.

Wednesday, 14th. After an early breakfast Judge Harrison left this for his own house, and in Company with Colo. Senf, I set out for our Works at the great falls; where we arrived about 11 O'clock, and after viewing them set out on our return and reached Colo. Gilpin's where we lodged.

Mr. Rumsey was not there (at the Falls), having gone that morning to Seneca, but Mr. Stuart the assistant was present.

Thursday, 15th. Took Alexandria, My Mill dam meadow

¹ Robert Hanson Harrison.

at Dogue run, and the Plantation there, as also the Ferry Plantation in my way home.

Found the tumbling dam all but new laying the Sheet-ing, and filling below it, compleated. Directed all the Breaches in the race and the leak at Piney branch dam, to be thoroughly repaired before the hands should quit.

Found the Hay which had been cut in the upper Meadow nearly cured — and 4 Mowers in the Meadow next the Overseer's House.

About 7 Oclock in the Afternoon, Doctr. La Moyeur came in with a Servant, Chaise, and 3 Horses.

Friday, 16th. Finished my Mill race and Dam this Afternoon.

Began about 10 Oclock to put up the Book press ¹ in my study.

Saturday, 17th. Rid to all the Plantations to day. In the Neck the Hoes and Plows were in the last (Westermost) cut; the first got to work in it about noon yesterday, and the latter about 3 or 4 Oclock in the Afternoon; both having passed through the middle cut, compleating as they went. The three hoed harrow would about get through the Eastermost cut (alternate rows) by Noon. The Oats were beginning to shoot forth the heads. At Muddy hole Plantation, the Hoes having over taken the Plows that were crossing went to weeding the drilled Peas, and I directed them to replant both Potatoes and Cabbages where missing in the same field. At Dogue run the Hoes appeared to have made little progress in weeding the drilled field, first, because the ground had got so rough and matted with grass as to require much labour. At the Ferry, the Hoes had

¹ This probably was the press for copying letters. Washington appears to have been among the earliest American users of this method of copying his letters. Few if any of the press copies of his letters, prior to 1790, however, seem to have survived.

weeded the Corn in the cut on the Hill and about 10 O'clock had begun in the flat below next the meadow fence and adjoining the drilled corn. Examined the Wheat again today, and concluded that at least half of it is destroyed.

Doctr. La Moyeur and Majr. Washington went up to Alexandria to day, the latter on my business. They dined there and returned in the evening. Just as we had dined, Captn. Smith of Mr. Ridout's ¹ Brig, Mr. Wallace a passenger in it for Bordeaux, and Doctr. Mortimer (going as far as Norfolk in her), came in and had dinner set for them.

Mr. Hough, Butcher in Alexandria, came here this afternoon and purchased from me three fatted Beeves (2 in the Neck, and 1 at Dogue run), for which he is to pay next week £42; also the picking of 12 Weathers from my flock at 34/ pr. head. If upon consulting my Farmer and they could be spared, he was to have 20.

Monday, 19th. Rid to Muddy hole, Dogue run, and Ferry Plantations; and to the Meadows (where people were at work) at the two latter.

Finding my Corn was in danger of being lost by Grass and Weeds, I stopped Brickmaking, and sent Gunner, Boatswain, Anthony, and Myrtella to assist at Dogue run in weeding it.

The grass at the Ferry being forwarder, and better than that at Dogue run, where the Scythmen began last to cut, I removed them (tho' the grass was not half down) to the former place — 4 Cutters at work.

Mr. Herbert and Wife, Mr. Throckmorton ² and his Wife, Miss Hannah, and Miss Kitty Washington, and Mr.

¹ John Ridout, of Annapolis. He came to America in 1753 as secretary to Governor Horatio Sharpe. He married Anne, the daughter of Governor Samuel Ogle.

² Mordecai Throckmorton.

Willm. Craik came here to dinner and all stayed the Evening, except Mr. Herbert, who returned to Alexandria.

A Monsr. Andri Michaux,¹ a Botanest sent by the Court of France to America (after having been only 6 Weeks returned from India), came in a little before dinner with letters of Introduction and recommendation from the Duke de Lauzen,² and Marqs. de la Fayette to me. He dined and returned afterwards to Alexanda. on his way to New York, from whence he had come; and where he was about to establish a Botanical Garden.

Tuesday, 20th. Mr. Craik went away before Breakfast, and the rest of the Company about 11 O'clock, at which time I rid to the Plantations at Dogue run, and ferry, and to the Meadows where People were cutting and making Hay. Stopped the cutters at the ferry, and set them to making hay; having too much grass down and exposed for the numbers employed in this business to execute in time without.

Mr. Shaw went up to Alexandria on my business, and returned in the Afternoon.

Wednesday, 21st. A stop put to out doors work till near noon.

About Sundown Mr. Fendall came here.

¹ André Michaux had been sent by France to establish botanical gardens in America and send specimens to the Royal Gardens for botanical study. He established two such gardens, one in Bergen, New Jersey, and the other in Charleston, South Carolina. Michaux traveled extensively through the United States, and died of fever in Madagascar, in 1802. Washington's cash account, kept by Bartholomew Dandridge, records, under date of April 23, 1793: 'Paid Dr. Collins one-fourth part of the President's Subscription toward enabling M. Micheau to explore the Western Country to the South Sea 25. dols.'

² Armand Louis de Gontaut, Duc de Lauzun, came to America shortly after Lafayette. He commanded a cavalry legion during the Revolutionary War and rendered good service. He beat back Tarleton's attempt to break through the lines at Gloucester, during the Siege of Yorktown. He returned to France and was guillotined by the Revolutionists in 1793.

Thursday, 22d. Mr. Fendall went away after Breakfast.

I rid to all the Plantations and to the Hay makers at the Ferry.

The Plows finished the drilled Corn in the Neck on Monday afternoon, and the hoes got over it on Tuesday Morning, and both went into the cut of common Corn by the Barn.

Friday, 23d. Finished Hoeing the drilled corn at Dogue run about 9 Oclock this forenoon, and began to weed the Corn in the dunged ground at that place wch. had got very foul.

Doctr. La Moyeur came here this afternoon.

Saturday, 24th. Rid to all the Plantations and to the Hay makers at the Ferry. In the Neck, both Plows and Hoes would have finished the cut of Corn by the Barn had not the rain prevented. The Ferry hands would also have finished the cut of common corn on the Flat but for the same cause.

Major Washington and his wife went up to Alexandria and were detained there all Night by the rain and appearances of the Clouds afterwards.

Sunday, 25th. Majr. Washington and Fanny came home before Breakfast.

Monday, 26th. Rid to Muddy hole, Dogue run and Ferry Plantations. Found the Muddy hole people in the Eastermost cut of Corn, having finished (with the hoes) the middle cut on Saturday. The Plows however were yet in the middle cut. At Dogue run the Plows had finished breaking up, and had begun crossing the cut in which Barry's houses stand, into which they went about dinner time on Saturday. About 11 Oclock to day the hoes fin-

ished weeding the Cowpered ground, and had got into the Swamp corn which was more Weedy than the rest. At the Ferry, the plows finished about 9 Oclock the drilled corn by the Fish house and went into the other drilled corn by the Meadow. About the same time the hoes having finished weeding the Corn in the flat, planted in the common way, had begun to weed the drilled corn by the Fish house and to replant the Irish Potatoes therein.

Finished cutting the Meadow at the ferry this afternoon.

Tuesday, 27th. Rid to all my Plantations. Found the Plows and Hoes in the Neck had gone over the cut by the Barn. The first finished it yesterday about breakfast, and the others about dinner time and were in the Cut adjoining. Finding the Hoe Harrow did not do good work in the drilled Corn, I ordered it to desist and the Bar share plow to be used, till the common Corn was all crossed; after which to use it when the ground was worked the other way. Cut down the clover at Muddy hole this forenoon (whilst it was moist from the Rain of last night), and put it into Windrows, 3 swarths in a Row. The Dogue run hands had not got over the Corn in the Swamp. At the Ferry the People had just finished weeding the drilled Corn by the Fish House, and replanting the Potatoes therein; not having quite enough of the latter to replant the whole, the deficiency was supplied with Corn. Making the hay that was cut yesterday at the Ferry, with the small gang.

Doctr. Craik dined here, and returned home afterwards.

Mr. Shaw went up to Alexa. on my business and returned late in the evening.

Wednesday, 28th. Rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue run, and the Ferry, and to the Hay fields. At the first I sowed turnips in Drills in the ground which had been sowed with Oats that never came up (by the Negro

Quarters). There were 7 rows, running from 180 to 200 steps of these (averaging 190 yards) wch. were sowed with about a gill or little more seed. The first row, Southerly, was harrowed with the little harrow at the tail of the barrel; but gathering earth and burying the Seed too deep, I took out every other tooth, and with it in this order harrowed the next row. This also appeared to cover too deep. I therefore took the harrow off altogether and tied brush in its plow which did much better. The Seed used here was of the first recd. from Mr. Chichester and was of the last year. The hands at Dogue run having just weeded their swamp Corn as I got there, about Noon, I directed, finding there was no prospect of getting over the Corn there with hoes before harvest, that the whole shd. be immediately succoured, and then between this and Sunday the forwardest, which was also the most weedy, should be gone over with the Hoes.

The Mowers after cutting down the Clover yesterday (wch. was done by noon) went into the Meadow at Morris's wch. had been left, and were cutting there to day. The grass at the Ferry, was all got into cocks this afternoon.

Doctr. La Moyeur came in before Dinner.

Mr. Shaw went out after breakfast to day, to see if he could engage any Mowers for me. He returned in the afternoon, having partly engaged 2 or 3.

Thursday, 29th. At home all day. In the evening Major Gibbs ¹ came in.

Planted in one row, between the Cherokee Plumb and the honey locust, back of the No. Garden adjoining the green House (where the Spanish Chesnuts had been placed and were rotten) 25 of the Paliurus, very good to

¹ Presumably Caleb Gibbs, of Massachusetts; he had been major, lieutenant-colonel and commandant of the Commander-in-Chief's Guard, during the Revolutionary War.

make hedges and inclosures for fields. Also in the section betwn. the work House and Salt house, adjoining the Pride of China Plants, and between the rows in which the Carolina laurel seeds had been sowed, 46 of the Pistatia nut in 3 rows. And in the places where the Hemlock pine had been planted and were dead, E[as]t and W[est] of the Garden gates, the Seeds of the Piramidical Cyprus, 75 in number, all of which with others were presented to me by Mr. Michaux, Botanist to his Most Christn. Majesty.

Mr. Shaw went out again to day to procure if to be had scythe-men for Corn and grass, of which he engaged two for the latter, to be at Work at Dogue run to morrow, and 4 of the latter, to be at this place on Monday.

Friday, 30th. Rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue run, and Ferry; and to the Hay makers at the Second. At Dogue, found the Corn had all been succoured, and the hoe had got into the fresh and weedy ground along the Wood side about 3 Oclock yesterday. The Meadow near the Overseers House, at this place would all be cut down about dinner time, the two White men, viz. Tayler and Hill, engaged by Mr. Shaw yesterday, having got to work there this Morning. The plows at the Ferry finished the drill Corn yesterday about 2 Oclock, and the hoes got over it about breakfast.

Began to cut my Rye at the Ferry about 12 Oclock to day — employed three Negro Cradlers, viz. Caesar, Sambo, and Boatswain — the greater part of which appeared to me to be blighted, and the rest very ripe, and much beat down. Both Rye and Wheat at this place had the appearance of greater ripeness than at any other, and might have been safely cut Six or eight days ago if I could have left my corn to do it.

Mr. Bushrod Washington came in whilst we were at Dinner.

JULY

Saturday, 1st. Rid to the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole Plantations. Finished (about Noon) crossing the cut in which Barry's Houses stand, and went to crossing in the one adjoining next the Woods. The hoes by this Evening will have got over all the forward Corn. At Muddy hole, the Corn was got over with the Hoes this afternoon, but the Plows were not able to accomplish it. Completed Hoeing Corn in the Neck this Afternoon, and also plowing it the second time.

Preparing to begin my harvest generally, on Monday, and made the arrangements, accordingly.

Planted 4 of the Ramnus Tree (an evergreen) one on each side of the Garden gates, a peg with 2 Notches drove down by them (Pegs No. 1 being by the Pyramidical Cyprus); also planted 24 of the Philirea latifolio (an evergreen shrub) in the Shrubberies by Pegs No. 3; and 48 of the Cytire, a tree produced in a cold climate of quick growth, by pegs No. 4. All these plants were given to me by Mr. Michaux.

Walking into my Orchard grass this evening, I found the seed very ripe, and shedding at a small touch, tho' the stalks and under part appeared quite green (head brown). Immediately set to cutting the heads with reap hooks, with such hands as I could pick up, lest by delaying it till Monday the greater part might be lost.

Doctr. LaMoyeur, who went from this on Wednesday last to Alexandria, returnd this afternoon, and Major Gibbes went away after breakfast.

Sunday, 2d. About Noon I set out for the intended meeting (to be held to morrow) at the Seneca falls. Dined at Colo. Gilpin's where, meeting with Colo. Fitzgerald, we proceeded all three of us to Mr. Bryan Fairfax's and lodged.

Monday, 3d. After a very early breakfast (about Sunrise) we left Mr. Fairfax's, and arriving at the head of the Seneca Falls, (where vessel was to have met us), was detained till near ten o'clock before one arrived to put us over to our place of rendezvous at Mr. Goldsborough's. Met Governor Johnson here; Govr. Lee was prevented by the situation of Mrs. Lee, from attending. A Colo. Francis Deakins,¹ appointed on the part of Maryland, to lay out the Road which was to be opened between the Eastern and Western waters at the expence of that State and Virginia, also attended, and made a verbal report of his, and Colo. Neville's² Surveys to effect this purpose; the result of which was, that they had agreed that the best rout for the said road was from the Mouth of Savage River, through the glades, to Cheat river, a little below the Dunker bottom; and from thence to the Monongahela (as they conceived the Navigation of Cheat river thro the laurel hill very difficult) below the Tyger's Valley; distance about 50 Miles. He was of opinion that besides the difficulties in the No. branch between the Mouths of Savage and Stony rivers, that little or nothing would be shortned in the road from the bearing, or trending off, of the North branch between these two places. To these matters however he did not speak with precision, or certainty, as his assistant who had his field notes and Surveys, had not returned.

A heavy shower of rain, a good deal of wind, and much thunder and lightning just abt. and after dark. A house to appearance about 3 Miles off, was consumed by fire,

¹ Francis Deakins, of Georgetown. Grandson of John Deakins, an Englishman who came to America early in the seventeenth century and settled in Maryland. Francis was a member of the Frederick County Committee of 1774, a captain in the Maryland Battalion of the Flying Camp during the Revolution, and a member of the Maryland House of Delegates in 1791. In June, 1800, he was chairman of the committee of citizens that welcomed President John Adams on his arrival in the Federal City.

² Colonel John Neville.

occasioned as was supposed by lightning; but whether it was a dwelling house or Barn we did not hear, nor could we discover to whom it belonged.

Tuesday, 4th. The Directors determined to prosecute their first plan for opening the Navigation of the river in the bed of it, and as streight as it was practicable, and ordered the Manager to proceed accordingly; and to remove the hands from the works at the great falls to the Seneca and other parts of the river, as it was their wish, having but 3 years from the commencemt. of the Act to perfect the Navigation above the falls. Mr. Rumsey having signified his disinclination to serve the Company any longer for the pay and emoluments which had been allowed him, and the Directors not inclining to encrease them, they parted, and Mr. Stuart (the first assistant) was appointed in his place. Mr. Smith the other assistant had his wages raised to £200 Maryld. Curry. pr. Ann.

These matters being settled, Govr. Johnson returned home, Colo. Fitzgerald proceeded on to Berkeley and Frederick, and Colo. Gilpin and myself resolved to send our horses to the Great falls and go by water to that place ourselves; and were happy to find that the passage of the Virginia side of all the Islands was vastly the best; and might be made easy and good at little expence; There being in short only 3 places where there was any difficulty, and those not great. Shallow water in a low state of the river is all that is to be feared.

After dining with Mr. Rumsey at the Great falls Colo. Gilpin and myself set out in order to reach our respective homes, but a gust of wind and rain, with much lightning, compelled me to take shelter, about dark at his house, where I was detained all night.

Wednesday, 5th. I set about sunrising, and taking my

harvestfields at Muddy hole and the ferry in my way, got home to breakfast.

Found that my harvest had commenced as I directed, at Muddy hole and in the Neck on Monday last, with 6 Cradlers at the first, to wit, Isaac, Cowper Tom, Ben, Overseer Will, Adam, and Dogue run Jack, who tho newly entered, made a very good hand; and gave hopes of being an excellent Cradler. That Joe (Postilian) had taken the place of Sambo at the Ferry since Monday last, and the harvest there proceeded under the cutting of Caesar, Boatswain, and him. That in the Neck 6 Cradles were constantly employed, and sometimes 7, viz. James, (who having cut himself in the meadow could not work constantly), Davy, Overseer, who having other matters to attend to, could not stick to it; Sambo, Essex, George (blacksmith), Will, Ned; and Tom Davis who had never cut before, and made rather an awkward hand of it. Tom Nokes was also there, but he cut only now and then, at other times shocking, repairing rake, etca. That the gangs at Dogue Run and Muddy hole were united and were assisted by Anthony, Myrtilla, and Dolshy from the home house, and that Sall Brass (when not washing) and Majr. Washington's Tom were assisting the ferry people. That Cowpers Jack and Day, with some small boys and girls (wch. had been taken out before), were assisting the Farmer in making Hay, after two white men who had been hired to cut grass. And found that the state of the Mercury in the thermometer had during my absence, been as follow, viz.

		Morng.	Noon	Night
Sunday....	2d.....	68....	78....	76
Monday....	3d.....	72....	79....	79
Tuesday....	4.....	78....	81....	81
Wenesdy..	5.....	78....	75....	72

Thursday, 6th. Rid to Muddy hole and into the Neck;

found that the Rye at the first had been cut down yesterday and that the Wheat was entered upon; and that the grain being wet this Morning, it could not either be shocked, or bound. The Rakers were therefore employed in succouring the drilled Corn at Muddy hole. The Rye at the Ferry was also cut down yesterday about dinner time. The plows at this place 3 in number, having finished crossing the Corn on the hill, had begun to cross that cut below, adjoining the drilled Corn. In the Neck, after the Plows had finished crossing the river cut, in the great field, 6 plows went into the drilled Corn (on Tuesday) and were running a single furrow on each side of it, the Peas, Potatoes, and Cabbage, by way of giving them a hill.

Friday 7th. Rid to all the Plantations; the Plows at Muddy hole (where 3 were at Work) had finished the East cut of Corn, and had begun to plow that cut by the bars, adjoining the drilled Corn the 3d time. Those at Morris's, four in number, had got about half over the Eastermost cut, next the Overseer's House, and the Farmer was stacking the grass which had been in cock sometime in the Meadow adjoining it.

Brought in the remainder of the Clover Hay, and Seed at Muddy to the Stack at the barn there.

Washington Custis being sick I sent for Doctr. Craik to visit him, and a sick child in the Neck. He arrived before dinner, and after going into the Neck and returning, stayed all night.

Mr. Shaw went up to Alexandria to day on my business — the Waggon also, to bring sundries down.

Saturday, 8th. Rid to the Ferry, Muddy hole and Neck Plantations. Finished cutting the Rye about noon at the latter, and set into the Wheat adjoining immediately after. Should have finished cutting and securing in shocks the

Wheat at Muddy hole this afternoon, had it not been for the interruption given by the rain.

The Rye at all the Plantations had been much beat down and tangled previous to the cutting any of it, and much loss will be sustained from this cause in addition to the defection in the head; but neither this grain nor the Wheat have been so much layed by the late Winds and Rains, as might have been expected. Of the latter indeed, tho much was threatned, not a great deal fell.

Sunday, 9th. Doctr. Stuart, Mrs. Stuart, and Betsy and Patcy Custis came here to breakfast, and Doctr. Craik to dinner, the last of whom went away in the evening.

Monday, 10th. Rid to the Neck, Muddy hole and Dogue Plantations. Began harvest at the latter this morning with the people belonging to the place; the Muddy hole hands finished theres by breakfast; after wch. (about half after eleven) the two gangs united again. In the Neck the Plows on Saturday finished running the furrows on each side the drilled Corn, by way of hilling it; and to day began to break, or plow the intermediate spaces.

John Knowles, who was absent all last week, came here to work again this Morning in good Season.

Doctr. Stuart, Mrs. Stuart, and the two girls Betsy and Patcy Custis returned after breakfast.

Tuesday, 11th. Rid to the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole Plantations, and to the Mill. At the first, the Plows had just finished plowing the drilled corn and Potatoes by the Fish House. At the second got into stacks all the Wheat in the Meadow by the Overseer's House.

Finished cutting the remainder of the Wheat in the great Field in the Neck of the Creek.

Doctr. Craik came here to breakfast and returned after it to Alexandria.

Wednesday, 12th. Visited all my Plantations and the Mill to day. Finished the Wheat harvest at the Ferry about Noon. Gave the People employed in it the remainder of the day for themselves, but ordered Boatswain and Joe (cradlers) and the hands from the home House to go into the Neck tomorrow; and the other Cradler (Caesar) with 2 or 3 Rakers to go to Dogue run (being most convenient), having before ordered Isaac, and Cooper Tom (cradlers), the house people and 3 rakers from Muddy hole gang, to go into the Neck to morrow morning, supposing the People belonging to the Plantation, with the aid above mentioned, would be able to compleat the Harvest at Dogue run in the course of to morrow. On my return home found Mr. Man Page¹ of Mansfield, Mr. Frans. Corbin,² and Doctr. Stuart here. And after Dinner Mr. Lawe. Washington and his Son Lawe. came in. Doctr. Stuart returned in the evening.

Perceived as I rode thro my drilled Corn at Muddy hole to day, that the alternate rows of early Corn was Tassling and Spooling.

Thursday, 13th. Finished the Wheat harvest at Dogue run about sundown.

Doctr. Craik came here to Dinner and returned afterwards.

In the Night there fell rain.

Friday, 14th. After Breakfast I rid to all my Plantations. Found the Plows in the Neck, after compleatly, that is, after having broke the ground between the furrows that had been run on each side the Corn for the purpose of hilling it, had got into the middle cut to do the like there,

¹ Mann Page, a member of the House of Burgesses from Spotsylvania County. He had been a delegate to the Continental Congress in 1777.

² Francis Corbin, a member of the House of Burgesses from Middlesex County.

in the Drilled Corn. Perceived the Irish Potatoes were coming into blossom at this place, and that after the rain on Wednesday, whilst the Wheat was too wet to bind, the harvest People had pulled a little of the flax at this place also. The Plows at Dogue run finished plowing the Cut they were in next the Overseer's House, and had begun to plow the drilled Corn, on the East side of the field, leaving every other row untouched and turning the mould from the Corn in these rows; by wch. the middle between the rows where the Cabbages, Potatoes, Peas, etca. grow would be ridged, intending these ridges to be reduced at the last Plowing, and the rows of Corn to form them. At the same place the hands had begun to hoe Corn in the Cut including Barry's houses, beginning next Wade's old dwelling, some of the People belonging to this plantation had come to Muddy hole for Rye, which they were threshing there for their horses. Muddy hole were Hoeing a small corner of Corn which was not finished before Harvest. At the ferry the Plows finished about two Oclock crossing the cut on the flat, and would begin to plow the drilled wh[ea]t by the Mea[do]w. The rest of the People were preparing a yard to tread out Wheat.

After breakfast Mr. Page and Mr. Corbin, accompanied by Majr. Washington, went up to Abingdon (taking Alexandria in their way), and before breakfast Mr. Lawe. Washington and his Son went up by water to the latter place. They all returned again in the Evening, when a Mr. Hatfield of England came in.

Saturday, 15th. After breakfast the Company all going away, I rid to all the Plantations except that at the Ferry. Compleated my Wheat harvest in the Neck about Noon, which made a finish of the whole, after wch. I directed my people, engaged therein, to pull flax till dinner, and take the remainder of the day to themselves. Much Wheat has

been left in all the fields this year occasioned: 1st; by the frequent rains and winds which preceeded, and happened during harvest (which had laid down and tangled it in some degree); 2d. by beginning my harvest too late; and 3rd., by the manner of cutting and gathering it into shocks. It is unlucky, that from several causes, I was prevented trying by experiment, this year, how early Wheat, or Rye might be cut without injury to the grain; but satisfied I am that, this may be done with safety, as soon as it is out of its milky State. At any rate, that the loss by shrinking in the beginning of a harvest from this cause, is not equal to the loss by shattering at the latter end of it, or to the hazard of its being entangled, or laid down by Winds and rain, which every year is the case in a greater, or lesser degree when harvest is long, and the grain ripe. For these reasons the following method may, I think, be attempted with success in future; and it will be found that many advantages will flow from it:

1st. To make every Plantation, or farm, take care of its own grain witht. uniting their hands.

2d. To encrease the number of cradlers at each; to such a number *only*, as will give two rakers to each, and leave a sufficiency besides to gather and put the Wheat into shocks. And, generally speaking, with Negro labourers, the following distribution may be found to come as near the Mark in wheat made in corn ground, as any, viz. for every two Cradlers to allow 4 rakes, 1 shocker, and two Carriers — for the last of which boys and girls are competent.

3d. To give the Cradlers a start of two days of the rakers and shockers; letting them begin to cut as soon as the milk leaves the grain, and before it becomes hard and flinty, leaving the grain this time in the swarth, for the straw to cure, before it is raked, bound and put into shocks.

4th. To order and see that the Cradlers cut slow, and lay

their grain regular and well; after it is cut low and clean; which will be found more advantageous than to hurry over the grd. in order to put an end to harvest, as is usual. By beginning early time will be allowed for these, especially as Wheat cut in this state yields much easier, and pleasanter to the stroke, and can be laid much better than when the straws gets dry and harsh.

5th. By giving this start to the cradlers, the straw (as hath been observed before) will be sufficiently cured to bind and shock and it must be seen that the Rakers also do their work clean and well, which is more likely to be the case without particular attention, than when one half their time they are scampering after the cutters to keep up; and the other half are standing whilst the cradlers are whetting their Scythes, drinking, or talking.

6th. Each raker must take a swarth and not two go in one, that the authors of bad work may be more easily detected. By this mode of proceeding the raking and binding will be done with more ease, regularity and dispatch, because it becomes a sober settled work, there being no pretext for hurrying at one time, and standing at another. But,

7th. By this means, I am persuaded that the number of rakers which usually follow cradlers, would, by the middle of harvest, or by the time the grain is in condition to shock as it comes from the Cradle be fully up with them, and then might go on together if it should be conceived best.

Admitting that the grain can be cut with safety as soon as it comes out of the Milky State the advantages here described, added to the superior quality of the straw for fodder, and indeed for every other purpose, greatly overballances any inconveniences which may result from the practice, and which must lay chiefly, if not wholly, in these:

1st. The hazard of a heavy beating rain, which may settle the swarth among the stubble so as to make it bad to rake, and difficult perhaps to get up clean; and 2d., lighter rains and Dews which may interrupt the binding, the straw not drying so soon in swarth as it does standing, nor can it be meddled with so early in the morning generally. But as neither rain nor dews will hurt the grain (on the contrary, will make it thresh easier, and do very little injury to the straw), and as there is allways work enough on the Plantations to employ the hands in (such as succouring and hoeing of Corn, pulling flax, weeding of vines, Pease, etca., etca.,) supposing the interruptions above mentioned to happen, no labour need be lost, because, as each harvest will be managed by the hands belonging to the farm or Plantation, they can without inconvenience (having their tools always at hand) shift from one kind of work to another without preparation or fitting themselves for it.

Sunday, 16th. Doctr. Craik came here in the forenoon, dined, and returned afterwards.

Monday, 17th. Rid to the Plantations in the Neck, Muddy hole, Dogue run, and Ferry. At the first began to cut the ripest of the Oats, but thinking them in general too green, quitted after breakfast and set all hands to pulling flax, the doing of which was compleated about Sundown. At Muddy hole the People were employed in clearing a yard to tread wheat in, and in getting in Wheat and Rye. Of the latter 6 Shocks (got in by the Dogue run hands) yielded $11\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of clean Rye, and 4 other shocks brought in by the hands of the Plantation and threshed by them 5 Bl. of clean Rye was produced. Dogue run people cut their Oats in the upper meadow, and the Ferry were employed as yesterday about their Wheat.

Tuesday, 18th. Rid to all the Plantations except that at the Ferry. Began to cut the Meadow at the Neck plantation to day, and to clean and prepare the yard for treading wheat there. Finished hilling with the Plows, all the Corn at Muddy hole which was planted in the usual way, and ordered the plows to turn the ground in the drilled Corn, designed for Turnips, and to plow it deep and well. Dogue run people (in part) cleaning and preparing their wheat yard and getting the Oats to it. Finished a Hay rick at the House which contained all the Hay that was made at the upper meadow at Dogue run and all that came off the Ferry Meadow.

Wednesday, 19th. Rid to all the Plantations to day. At that in the Neck, the Scythe-men having cut (yesterday) the upper part of the Meadow, and to the cross fence; returned to the Oat field to day at the old orchard point, which they cut down; but did not shock, the Straw being too green for it. At the same place the Plows finished the middle cut of the drilled Corn, and plowed, in the same cut, the intervals between the Corn rows which were designed for Turnips. The Plows at Muddy hole began yesterday afternoon to give the middle cut (next to, and adjoining the drilled corn) another plowing from the road to the Woods back. 4 other shocks of Rye at this place from another part of the field, yielded about the same quantity of clean grain that the first did, viz. five bushels: from which, there being 177 shocks in the field, it may become fated that not more than 220 or 225 will be obtained.

On my return home I found Mr. Calvert ¹ of Maryland and his Son, Colo. Bland,² Mr. Geo. Digges, Mr. Foster

¹ Benedict (?) Calvert.

² Colonel Theodorick Bland had been educated in England, was Colonel of the First Continental Dragoons, a delegate to the Continental Congress in 1780-83, and a member of Congress from Virginia in 1789.

and Lund Washington here — all of whom dined. The 3 first stayed the evening, the other three returned.

Thursday, 20th. Before the rain the Flax in the Neck was thrown into shocks, as was part of the Oats. Another part was set on end (as much as could be of it), and the third part was caught on the ground in the Sheaf by the rain.

Finished cutting the Meadow in the Neck this afternoon; and had begun to plow the ground designed for Turnips there, but the Rain put a stop to it. The plows then went into the Corn adjoining thereto in the cut next the Barn.

Mr. Calvert and Son was prevented recrossing the River this afternoon by the Rain.

Friday, 21st. Mr. Calvert and Son went away very early in the Morning. After breakfast Colo. Bland and myself road to my Plantations at Muddy hole and in the Neck. At the first found the gr[oun]d was too wet for Plowing, and that 4 other Shocks of rye from another part of the field had been threshed, which yielded rather better than $7\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of clean grain. At the other I examined the Shocks of Flax wch. seemed to be tolerably dry, and in good order; but I directed the Overseer to keep an attractive watch upon them, and the Pats and open and dry them if they appeared to need it; and to get both as soon as he could to the Barn.

Having finished cutting the Meadows in the Neck, the farmer and two or three hands remained there to make the Hay, whilst Six cutters came over and cut down the Orchard grass at the House which had been stripped of the head (for the seed) on or about the first instant. It may be remarked of this grass, and it adds to the value of it, that it does not turn brown at the bottom, after it heads, nor does the stubble appear dry when it is cut, as that of Timothy.

Consequently the aftermath is more valuable, and the Second growth quicker. Whether this effect is natural to the grass, or has been produced by having had the seed taken from it, is not *altogether* certain, but the first is much more probable; because Timothy would, before it should have approached the same state of maturity, have been quite brown and rusty at bottom, which was not the case with the Orchd. Grass when the Seed was taken from it, not at any time since, and is an evidence that it will wait longer after it is fit for the scythe than timothy without injury. It also appeared by some that had been mixed with, and grown near to the clover wch. was cut about the 7th or 8th of June, that it vegetates much quicker after cutting, than Timothy does.

Saturday, 22d. An Overseer of mine (at the ferry) informed that the chintz bug was discovered in his Corn and that he apprehended if the weather should turn dry, they would encrease, and destroy it. He also informed me that the fly¹ was discovered about the shocks of Wheat in his field.

At home all day with Colo. Bland.

Sunday, 23d. Mr. Powell, Mr. Porter, and Miss Ramsay and Miss Craik came here to breakfast (from Alexa.) and returned again after Dinner.

Monday, 24th. After breakfast I accompanied Colo. Bland to Mr. Lund Washington's, where he entered the stage on his return home. Rid from hence to the Plantations at Dogue run and Muddy hole. At the first I found that the plows had finished the alternate rows of drilled corn on Saturday afternoon, and were then plowing the intermediate ones, which had been passed over. Examined the low and sickly looking corn in several parts of this field,

¹ Hessian fly?

and discovered more or less of the Chinch bug on every stalk between the lower blades and it. It is highly probable that the unpromising appearance of most of my Corn, and which I had been puzzled to acc[oun]t for and ascribing it to other causes may have proceeded from this, and that the calamity, especially, if a drought should follow, will be distressing to a great degree. The Hoes at this plantation will to morrow, have finished the cut they had begun on the West side the field, and would go into the one adjoining. Muddy hole People were engaged in getting their Wheat into Stacks at the barn and threshing out what rye they had put into the Barn which amounted to 12 Shocks and yielded 18 Bushels of clean grain.

On my return home, found Colo. Humphreys¹ here; and soon after a Capt. Cannon came in with a letter from Colo. Marshall,² from Kentucke.

Tuesday, 25th. After breakfast I rid round all my Plantations. Found my corn in the Neck as much infested by the Chinch bug as I had perceived that to be at Dogue run yesterday. The rows of Corn wch. were intermixed with Irish Potatoes, along the fence wch. divides the Wheat field (or stubble) from it, were perceived to be much better, and more uniform than that at any other part of the field, but whether it has been occasioned by dunging, or otherwise, I could get no distinct acct. Some of the Negros ascribed it to this cause, and it is more probable than that the Potatoes should have been the cause of it. Sowed

¹ Colonel David Humphreys, of Connecticut. He was an aide to Washington during the Revolution and was at Mount Vernon, in a semi-secretarial capacity, for some months prior to Washington's election as President in 1789; secretary to the commission to negotiate treaties of commerce with European powers; United States Minister to Portugal in 1790, and, later, Minister to Spain. He had some poetic ability, and is responsible for several rather ponderous poems, written in the approved style of the period.

² Humphrey Marshall, of Kentucky. He was a captain in the Revolutionary War and United States Senator in 1795-1801.

about five Acres of Turnips in br[oa]dcast, in the Neck, in that grd. which originally was prepared for the Saintfoin and other Seeds. These Seeds were sowed after a plowing which the ground had just received, and were harrowed in with a heavy harrow, which raked the grass very much into heaps (the ground tho' frequently plowed before, having got very grassy.) Two hands at this place, began yesterday to cut the drilled Oats which they would ab[ou]t accomplish to morrow. This Oats (24 rows) I ordered to be secured and threshed by itself. 5 plows only were at work here, the Waggon and two Ox Carts being employed in getting in the grain. All hands except those at plow were engaged in this business, in stacking the Wheat, and threshing of Rye. At Muddy hole, except the three people at the Plows, and those employed in drawing in and stacking the Wheat at the Barn, all hands had begun to Weed the drilled Corn and the Plants between the rows. The Oats at this place had been cut two or three days, and the Wheat would be all drawn in and stacked to day. The Dogue run people did not finish the cut they were in yesterday till noon this day when they entered the one adjoining. The Ferry People w[oul]d nearly get the Wheat at that Plantation into Stack to day.

Doctr. Craik was sent for to visit Carpenter James and Cowper Jack. He also prescribed for a Child, Nat, over the Creek who was brought here.

Wednesday, 26th. Mr. Herbert, Colo. Ramsay, Colo. Allison and Mr. Hunter dined here and returned in the Afternoon.

One Edw. Moystan who formerly lived with Mr. Robt. Morris as a Steward, and now keeps the City Tavern in Philadelphia, came here to consult me on the Propriety of his taking the Coffee Ho. in Alexandria, i.e. On the prospect of its answering his purpose for keeping Tavern.

Having fixed a roller to the tale of my drill plow, and a bush harrow between it and the barrel, I sent it by G. A. Washington to Muddy hole and had the intervals betwn the Corn which had been left for the purpose sowed with Turnips in drills and with which it was done very well.

Thursday, 27th. Rid to Muddy hole, Dogue run, and Ferry Plantations, and to the Mill. Found the Wheat all got in and shocked at the first and last mentioned places, and that the Plows had finished plowing the drilled corn on Thursday evening last and were plowing the Cut on the Hill. The rest of the hands at this place, and Cart were employed in getting in Rye. The drilled Oats between the Corn, at Muddy hole, being threshed and cleaned measured 18 bush.

In the evening Mr. Thos. Fairfax (son of Bryan Fairfax Esqr. now Parson) came in and stayed all Night.

Friday, 28th. Mr. Fairfax went away after breakfast.
At home all day.

Saturday, 29th. Accompanied by Colo. Humphreys I rid to Muddy hole, and Neck Plantations. The Drilled Oats at the latter, between the Corn, being threshed and cleaned, measured 54 B. There being 24 rows of these, each (allowing for the divisions between the Cuts and the bouting rows at the ends) about 1075 yards long amounts to 25,800 yards running measure, or 160 yds — 19 which is better than $5\frac{1}{4}$ acres. The quantity to the Acre therefore, cannot exceed 10 Bushels, which is less, it is presumed, than the same kind of Land would have produced in broadcast. It is to be remarked however that the abundant wet which had fallen from the middle of May, or thereabouts, till Harvest had in most of the low places destroyed the grain either wholly, or in part by which the quantity growing was

reduced; but this would also have happened, in any square piece of ground, as there is scarce any that is not subject to the same accident.

Monday, 31st. Mr. Willm. Craik who came here to dinner, afterwards went away for Alexandria on his journey to Hampshire.

Accompanied by Colo. Humphreys, rid to the Plantations at the Ferry and Dogue run. At the first, the plowing of the cut upon the hill was finished and the plows in the drilled Corn by the fish house. The Hoes were at work in the other drilled Corn. At Dogue Run the Hoes had just finished the Cut they had been in; and the Plows the drilled Corn; into which the Hoes had entered on the East side next the Swamp. The Plows would now cease till the Horses could be a little refreshed and get out wheat for sowing.

AUGUST

Tuesday, 1st. Mrs. Fendall, Harriot Washington,¹ and Lucy Lee (a child), Colo. Fitzgerald, Colo. Simms,² Captn. Conway, Messrs. Saml. and Thos. Hanson and Mr. Charles Lee came here to dinner — all of whom, except the 3 first named, went away after it.

Wednesday, 2d. Rid to Muddy hole, but proceeded no further, as at the time I was there, the appearances of a wet day were greatest.

Thursday, 3d. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole. At the first f[oun]d the drilled

¹ Harriot Washington, niece of the General's; daughter of his brother Samuel. She seems to have been rather wayward and gave the General a little trouble before she married Andrew Parks, of Baltimore, in 1796.

² Colonel Charles Simms, of Alexandria.

Corn had been we'd with the Hoes and the People were cleansing the Meadow ditches, and that the Plows had done with the Corn till seeding with Wheat. I set them to plowing that part of the New Ground which had been gone over with the Colter plow, with a view of Sowing Turnips therein.

Turned the two old draft Oxen at Home house, one of the old Cows from ditto, and Steers and Cows from Dogue run into the Meadows at that place. At the same time put my rams into the same place and 25 ewe Lambs on the Clover at Muddy hole, where I ordered the work horses to be put.

My Overseer returned from a Mr. Reynolds¹ in Calvert Cty., Maryland, with 1 Ram and 15 ewe Lambs of the English breed of Sheep wch. I ordered to be turned into the same place.

In the Evening Richd. Sprig, Esqr., of Annapolis, and another Mr. Sprig came in and stayed all night.

Friday, 4th. The appearances of rain yesterday afternoon fell very heavily about Ravensworth and that part of the County occasioning greater freshes in Accatinck, Pohick and Hunting Ck. than had been known for many years, and it is thought a good deal of damage to the Crops of Corn and other grain on the gr[oun]d.

Rid to the Plantations in the Neck, Muddy hole, and Dogue run, and dined afterwards at Mr. Lund Washington's with Mrs. Washington, Colo. Humphreys, and Mrs. Fendal, and Majr. Washington (who had first been to Alexa. on business) and his Wife.

At the Neck plantation the Plows had, on Monday last finished plowing the drilled Corn East cut, and would this

¹ There was an Edward Reynolds, a justice of the peace in Calvert County in 1773. The family was a numerous one in the county and identification of this individual is difficult.

day have compleated all the other Corn except the cut on the River in wch. Wheat will be first sowed.

Saturday, 5th. Went to Alexandria to a meeting of the Directors of the Potomac Compa. in order to prepare the Accts. and a report for the Genl. meeting of the Co. on Monday next. Neither of the Maryland Gentn. attended. Dined at Wise's Tavn.

Finished weeding the drilled Corn at Muddy hole this day.

Sunday, 6th. At home all day without Company.

Monday, 7th. Went to Alexandria to the Genl. Meeting of the Potomack Co. Colo. Humphreys accompanied me. A sufficient number of Shares being present to constitute the Meeting the Accts. of the Directors were exhibited and a Genl. report¹ made; but for want of the Secretary's Books which were locked up, and he absent, the Orders and other proceedings referred to in that report could not be exhibited.

Tuesday, 8th. Rid by Muddy hole Plantation to my meadow in the Mill Swamp; and leveled from the old dam, just below Wade's Houses, to the head of the Old race by the stooping red oak; stepping $27\frac{1}{2}$ yds. or as near as I could judge 5 rods between each stake, which are drove in as follows: 1st, at the Water edge where I begun, and level with the Surface thereof; two, in the old race (appearances of which still remain); and a fourth, by a parcel of small Persimon bushes after having just passed the Bars leading into the Meadows. The others at the distance above mentioned from each other to the stooping red oak.

¹ The Library of Congress has a photograph of this report, which was dated August 7, 1786, and signed by Washington, as President of the Company.

By this it appears that the ground from the level of the water at the old dam by Wade's Houses to the Race by the Stooping red oak, is higher by two feet (wanting half an Inch) than the bottom of the race in its present filled up State, is; and that the ditch, or old race must be considerably sunk. The old dam considerably raised, and strengthned in order to throw the Water into the New ditch, or a dam made higher up the run, so as to gain a greater fall, which of the three may be most eligible as it will, without any great additional expence drain a good deal more of the Swamp; but if it should be thought more eligible, deepning the race and raising the dam will carry

of the Water from the Meadow below, but then it may drown the land above.

At Muddy hole the hands finished hoeing the drilled Corn on Saturday last and on Monday and this day were employed in getting out Wheat.

In the evening Mr. Fitzhugh of Chatham and Mr. Robt. Randolph came here from Ravensworth.¹

Wednesday, 9th. Began to sow Wheat at the Ferry and in the Neck yesterday — at the first in the cut on the flat adjoining the drilled Corn, and at the other in the cut on the river.

Finished clearing two stacks of Wheat which had been tread out at Muddy hole, each measured 24 bushels of light Wheat, weighing only [] lbs. pr. Bushel.

Thursday, 10th. Rid to Muddy hole, Dogue run, and ferry Plantations, at the first of which Wheat seeding will commence to morrow; at the second things are not in order for it; and at the third, the sowing has been stopped by the heavy rain which fell yesterday.

Mr. Fitzhugh and Mr. Randolph went away after Breakfast.

Friday, 11th. Rid to Muddy hole and Dogue run Plantations. At the first, sowing Wheat begun this Morning. At the latter, I agreed with one James Lawson, who was to provide another hand to ditch for me in my Mill swamp upon the following terms; viz. to allow them every day they work each 1 lb. of salt or 1½ of fresh meat pr. day, 1¼ lbs. of brown bread, 1 pint of spirits and a bottle of Milk. The bread to be baked at the House, and their Meat to be Cooked by Morris's Wife; and to allow them 16 d. pr. rod for ditches of 4 feet wide at top, 1 foot wide at bottom, and

¹ 'Ravensworth,' in Fairfax County.

2 feet deep; with 12 or 15 Inches footing, and 2/ for ditches of 6 feet wide at top, 2 feet at bottom, and two ft. deep with equal footing.

On my return home found Mr. John Barnes and Doctr. Craik here, the last of whom returned to Alexandria, the other stayed all night.

Saturday, 12th. Mr. Barnes went away before Breakfast.

After which I rid to my Meadow in order to mark out a middle ditch, and to try how much above the water in the run below where the two courses of it unite, below the old Mill Seat, and which is found to be nearly 3 feet; estimating between the Surfaces of the two. It also appears that the Meadow, just by where a breach is made in the dam, is as low as any part in it reckoning from the Surface of the Water (from the bottom of the bed of the run would ordinarily be deeper), and that from this place to the Surface of the run at a turn of it by a spreading Spanish bush the rise is about 14 Inches.

Thomas McCarty left this yesterday — it being found that he was unfit for a Household Steward.

Richard Burnet took his place on the wages of Thirty pounds pr. Ann.

Sunday, 13th. Mr. Shaw quitted this family to day.¹

Colo. Humphreys, Geo. Washington and wife, went to Church at Alexandria to day and dined with Mr. Fendall. The first remained there all Night.

Monday, 14th. Went by way of Muddy hole and Dogue run plantations to the Meadow, in my Mill Swamp, to set the Ditchers to work; only one of whom appeared. About Noon he began on the side ditch, East of the Meadow. After doing this, and levelling part of the ground (with a

¹ Shaw had arranged to go to the West Indies. (See entry for August 25, *post.*)

Rafter level) along which the Ditch was to be cut I intended to have run a course or two of Fencing at Muddy hole; but meeting with Genl. Duplessis ¹ in the road who intended to Mt. Vernon but had lost his way, I returned home with him, where Colo. Humphreys had just arrived before us.

Tuesday, 15th. At home all day. Doctr. Stuart and Mr. Keith,² deputed by the Potomack Co. to present its thanks to the President and directors thereof came for that purpose, dined here, and returned in the Afternoon.

Wednesday, 16th. Colonels Fitzgerald and Lyles, Mr. Brailsford (an English Gentleman) and Mr. Perrin came here to dinner and returned afterwards. In the Afternoon a Major Freeman who looks after my concerns west of the Alligeny Mountains came in and stayed all Night.

Thursday, 17th. About breakfast time my Baggage which had been left at Gilbert Simpson's ³ arrived here.

Settled Accts. with Major Freeman and engaged him to continue his agency till he should remove from his present residency to Kentucke and then to put all my Bonds into the hands of Lawyer Smith ⁴ to bring suits on.

At home all day. Understood that the river cut in the Neck had been sowed with Wh[ea]t.

Friday, 18th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, Dogue

¹ Thomas Antoine, Chevalier Mauduit Duplessis, came to America in 1777. He was a lieutenant-colonel of artillery in the Continental Army and displayed valor at Germantown, Red Bank, and Monmouth. He was killed in San Domingo in the Revolution of 1791. Washington had written to him, July 28, 1786: 'Permit me, Sir to add for myself in particular that I shall be unfeignedly happy in receiving you under the peaceful shades of Mount Vernon and in seeking occasions to render you any services which may be in my power to offer.'

² James Keith.

³ From the trip to Seneca and Great Falls in July. Simpson's was near Mount Vernon.

⁴ Thomas Smith, lawyer, of Bedford, Pennsylvania.

run, and Muddy hole, and to the Mill. The hands at each place working on the Public roads. At Dogue run the Plows and Hoes began to put in Wheat on Wednesday last.

The ditcher at the Meadow w[oul]d by Noon have compleated about 6 rod of the 6 feet ditch which would be about 1 rod and half pr. day.

A Mr. Jno. Dance, recommended by Genl. Mifflin,¹ and Willing,² Morris³ and Swanwick⁴ came here to offer his services to me as a Manager, but not wanting such a person he returned after Dinner.

Saturday, 19th. After breakfast I accompanied Colo. Humphreys by water to Alexandria and dined with him at Captn. Conway's to whom he had been previously engaged.

The Tools and Baggage of Mr. Rawlin's Workmen were carried to Alexandria in my Boat to day.

Monday, 21st. Rid to the Plantations at Dogue run, Muddy hole, and Ferry. At the 2d. the Hoes and Plows had just finished putting in Wheat in the middle cut, which took [] bushels to sow it. After which they were ordered to thin the drilled Turnips and to weed the Carrots.

Tuesday, 22d. Finished sowing the Middle cut in the large field in the Neck; to do which took [] bushls. of grain. As it did [] bushels to seed the river side cut.

Mrs. Jenifer came here to Dinner yesterday, and Mr. Wm. Craik and his Sister (Miss Craik) came in the After-

¹ Thomas Mifflin, of Pennsylvania. He had been brigadier-general during the Revolution; quartermaster-general of the Continental Army; President of the Board of War, and had been President of the Continental Congress when Washington resigned his commission.

² Thomas Willing, merchant, of Philadelphia.

³ Robert Morris, Superintendent of Finance during the Revolution; Signer of the Declaration of Independence.

⁴ John Swanwick, business partner of Robert Morris, after the Revolution.

noon. Doctr. Craik came in before breakfast, after which he, his son and daughter went away.

Wednesday 23d. Rid to my Plantations at Muddy hole, dogue run, and Ferry — also to the Mill. Colo. Humphreys went away to day to take the Stage at Alexandria for the No. Ward.

Mr. and Mrs. Fendall, Mr. Charles Lee, Miss Flora and Miss Nancy Lee, Miss Conttee, and Harriot Washington came here to Dinner — all of whom went away after it, except the 4 last named.

Having Wed the Carrots and thinned the Turnips at Muddy hole I directed the People to sow some Wheat in the cut adjoining the middle one which had been put into brine.

Thursday, 24th. Mr. Shaw came down before dinner and stayed all night.

At home all day myself.

Friday, 25th. Mr. Shaw went to Alexandria after breakfast in order to proceed to the Northward to embark at Philadelphia for the West Inds.

I rid to Muddy hole and Dogue run Plantations. At the first I marked out lines for a new partition of my fields, and directed the best plowman at it to break up about 10 Acres of Pasture land which had produced Wheat the year of 1785, to try how it would yield (upon a single plowing) Wheat next, sowed this fall.

At Dogue run Meadow (Mill Swamp) I marked the middle ditch for the hired men to work on, while the Season was proper.

Mr. Rawlins from Baltimore and Mr. Tharpe came here before dinner to measure the work which had been done for me and to receive payment.

Saturday, 26th. Rid to the Neck, Muddy hole, and Ferry plantations. At the two first (as also at Dogue run Plantation) the Plows and Hoes were stopped by the earth being surcharged with water. At the ferry, the cut of Corn on the Hill having discharged the Water more freely the People were putting in Wheat there.

On my return home found Mr. Geo. Fitzhugh (Son of Colo. Wm. Fitzhugh of Maryland) here. They dined, and returned to Alexandria afterwards, as did the Miss Lees and Miss Countee this Mornng.

Sunday, 27th. At home all day alone.

Monday, 28th. Just after we had breakfasted, and my horse was at the door for me to ride, Colonel and Mrs. Rogers came in. When they sat down to breakfast which was prepared for them, I commenced my ride for Muddy hole, Dogue run, and Ferry Plantations, also to my meadow on Dogue run and the Mill.

At Muddy hole and the ferry a plow at each begun this day to break ground, for the purpose of sowing Wheat, or Rye, or both as shall be thought best.

The Ditchers (for one was added to James Lawson to day) began the middle ditch in the Meadow at the Mill this morning.

And my Carpenters began to take up the forebay at my Mill this Morning also.

Began to level the unfinished part of the lawn in front of my House.

Tuesday, 29th. Plowed up the Cowpens on the left of the road in order to sow Turneps but was prevented by the rain. Spreading stable dung on the poorest parts of my clover at home.

Thatching the Hay stacks at the same place.

Taken with an Ague about 7 Oclock this Morning which

being succeeded by a smart fever confined me to the House till evening. Had a slight fit of both on Sunday last but was not confined by them.

Colonel and Mrs. Rogers¹ left this about 10 O'clock for George Town, on their way to Baltimore.

Lund Washington called in to inform me that Mr. William Triplet would be here to morrow to converse with me on the subject of renting Mrs. French's Lands in this Neck, now in the occupation of one Robinson.

Wednesday, 30th. Prevented riding in the Morning by the Weather.

About Noon Mr. Will Triplet and Mr. L. Washington came in, and after a great deal of conversation respecting the Renting of Mrs. French's Land, and the purchase of Manley's, it ended in postponement till Friday for further consideration.

Thursday, 31st. Siezed with an ague before six O'clock this morning after having laboured under a fever all night.

Sent for Doctr. Craik, who arrived just as we were setting down to dinner; who, when he thought my fever sufficiently abated, gave me a cathartick and directed the Bark² to be applied in the Morning.

SEPTEMBER

Friday, 1st. Doctr. Craik went away after Breakfast. About 10 O'clock I set out for Mr. Triplet's. Called upon Lund Washington. Mrs. French required more time for

¹ Colonel Nicholas Rogers, of Baltimore (1753-1822). The present Druid Hill Park in that city was the seat of the family. Colonel Rogers was a member of the city committee of defense, 1780; a justice of Baltimore County and acted for a time as aide to Baron de Kalb and of Brigadier-General Tronson Du Coudray.

² Quinine, or, as it was called in early times, 'Jesuits' bark,' from its discoverers.

consideration before she could determine to give a lease for her life, but he agreed to sell me Manley's Land on the following terms, viz.

I to pay Three pounds per Acre, and to pass my bond therefor, payable on demand with an interest of 5 per Ct. per Ann. till discharged. The money not to be called for Only as the Children come of age, or may require it. When the interest becomes due my Bond to be given for the same in order that the sum may be accumulating for their benefit instead of paying the cash.

In returning home I passed by my Meadow at the Mill, Dogue run, and Muddy hole plantations. Found that the rains had been so constant and heavy that an entire stop had put to the sowing of Wheat among the Corn, and to my ditching in the midst of the meadow at the Mill; but that the gr[oun]ds which I had ordered to be broke up at the Ferry, and Muddy hole, and in the Neck was advancing very well.

Took 8 dozes of the red bark to day.

Saturday, 2d. Kept close to the House to day, being my fit day in course, least any exposure might bring it on. Happily missed it.

Sowed Turnep Seed on the Cowpen grounds, harrowed them in, at the home house adjoining the clover.

Doctr. Craik came here in the afternoon and stayed all Night.

Sunday, 3d. Majr. Washington and Mr. Lear went to Pohick church, dined at Colo. McCarty's and returned afterwards.

I rid by the Ferry to the Mill and back by way of exercise.

Doctr. Craik returned after he had breakfasted to Alexandria.

Monday, 4th. Majr. Washington went up to Alexandria on my business and did not return till night.

I rid to Muddy hole, and Dogue run Plantations, and to the Mill and Meadow. At Muddy hole the Overseer began this Morning to sow Wheat again among Corn, but the ground was full wet and heavy for it. At Dogue run the People were repairing my outer Fences.

Too much wet in the Meadow to work on the middle ditch, the ditchers proposed doing it to morrow if the Water continued to subside.

Tuesday, 5th. Rid to the Neck and Muddy hole Plantations. At the first, though unnoticed at the time, the cut adjoining the drilled corn had been sowed with Wheat ever since Tuesday last; and this day (having taken the seed from it $14\frac{1}{2}$ Bushs.) the Flax was spread, but not well, the weeds not being sufficiently Cut and taken off to let it lye well on the Earth. At Muddy hole finished all the Wheat sowing in Corn ground I intended, viz. 19 Bushels in the cut adjoining the drilled Corn, and 14 in the other East of it, the remainder of this latter cut being designed for Rye. Mr. Wm. Peake dined here.

Wednesday 6th. Rid to my Plantations at the Ferry, Dogue run and Muddy hole; also to the Mill and the Meadow where the Ditchers were at work.

At the two first, the People were sowing Wheat again in Corn ground. At Dogue run two Acres of turf had been plowed up agreeably to my farmer's orders, to sow Wheat on. This was done yesterday and the day before. The Lands plowed in the same way, tho' not so well turfed, some of it being Wheat Stubble of the last year and the remainder in Wheat the year before, I directed to be immediately sowed; the latter with Wheat, and the former with Rye. And thereafter the plowing of every day to [be]

sowed and harrowed in before Night, that no rain might intervene between the plowing and Sowing. Timothy Seeds were ordered to be sowed therewith, and after the grain was harrowed in to be brushed in with a bush harrow. These directions applied to the Ferry, Muddy hole, and Neck the first and last rye to sow, and the other both Wheat and Rye. Note. The Rye at the Ferry to be sowed in this way, is on Wh[ea]t land of the last year and not as mentioned above.

Mr. Rozer, a Mr. Hall, and a Mr. Matthews from the Eastern Shore, dined here and returned in the afternoon. After which Mr. and Mrs. Fendall, came in on their [way to] Esquire Lee's of Maryland (who is very ill) and stayed all night.

Thursday, 7th. Mr. and Mrs. Fendall crossed the ferry early.

I rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue run, and Ferry. At the first Wheat had, this day, been sowed up to the Land in wch. the Plow was at work and harrowed in. The part next the hedge row (being the first plowed) had received a heavy rain since it was plowed, which occasioned it not to harrow well; but as the greater part of it was a slipe of Cowpens it is more than probable, nevertheless, that the best Wheat will grow there.

The People making a fence round that field.

At Dogue run the hands had been employed in putting in ab[ou]t $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushls. of the Cape Wheat raised below my Stables. This was put into a well cowpered piece of ground (now in Corn) adjoining the meadow, the grass and weeds of which I had cut up and carried off the ground before the Seed was sowed.

Getting out Rye at the Ferry to sow the Newly broken up gr[oun]d.

Began to Paper the yellow room this day — Majr.

Washington and Thos. Green the undertakers — by the directions I received with the Paper from England.

Friday, 8th. Rid into the Neck, and called at Muddy hole. Found at the former that the last year's cut of Wheat surrounding the Meadow would be nearly broke up for Rye by the evening, and that that part of it South of the meadow adjoining the gate had been sowed with $2\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of Rye, which was nearly harrowed in; and that the rest of the hands were employed in hoeing the drilled Turneps and in weeding and hilling the Cabbages between the Corn rows.

Saturday, 9th. Rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue run, and Ferry; and went also to the Mill. At the latter, rye and grass seed (Timothy) would be sowed on all the Land that is plowed. Sowing Rye on the plowed Wheat stubble in the same manner at Muddy hole.

The ground at the Ferry being stiff breaking up in pretty large and heavy clods, and the Seed harrowed in with my lightest harrow, was not well covered and left the ground very rough and lumpy with hollows between the furrows that would prevent the grain from being well covered, and the Timothy seed still worse.

On my return home from riding, found Mr. William Triplett here, who delivered me the Papers respecting Manley's Land for which I had agreed with him, and who informed me that Mrs. French had consented to rent me her Dower Land and Slaves in this Neck during her life, and to assign Robinson's Lease to me on the same terms Robinson holds, viz. £136 per Ann., to be paid to her clear of all expences. I am not to move the Negroes out of the County, and a clause is to be inserted in the lease that, in case of my death and they should by my successor be

maltreated in any respect, a forfeiture of the lease shall be incurred.

About 5 O'clock the Widow Randolph of Wilton, with her 3 Sons and a daughter, a Miss Harrison (daughter to Colo. Charles Harrison) and Captn. Singleton¹ came in, and about an hour afterwards Mr. Fendall and Mrs. Fendall arrived.

Sunday, 10th. Mr. and Mrs. Fendall went away after breakfast, and Colo. Gilpin came in, dined and returned in the afternoon.

Monday, 11th. Rid to Muddy hole, Dogue run, and Ferry Plantations, and to my Ditchers at the Meadow. At the last mentioned Plantation my people would have about finished this Afternoon sowing the cut of Corn on the Hill with Wheat.

Colo. Simms came here and dined on his way to Port Tobacco Court, and crossed the river afterwards.

Tuesday, 12th. Mrs. Randolph, Miss Harrison, Mrs. G. Washington, Captn. Singleton and Mr. Lear went to Alexandria after breakfast and returned before dinner.

I rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole and in the Neck. Began at the former to gather the tops and blades of the early corn in drills.

Wednesday, 13th. Mrs. Randolph and her Children, Miss Harrison and Captn. Singleton left this after breakfast.

I rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole also to the Mill.

At the first the people having finished sowing the cut on the hill with Wheat, were chopping this grain in in the

¹ Captain Anthony (?) Singleton. He had been captain of the First Continental Artillery.

drilled corn by the fish house among the Potatoes, which they did by shifting the tops of the vines from side to side as they hoed. At the other, or second place, the hands continued hoeing and plowing in Wheat in the Corn ground, tho' it was wet and heavy. At the last, Will (plowman) finished in the afternoon the 10 Acre piece of Wheat he began the 28th Ult. by which it appears he was 15 days accomplishing it; and had not plowed quite $\frac{3}{4}$ of an Acre a day, altho' the ground, except in one or two small spots which had been made wet and heavy by the Rains, was in as good order for plowing as were to be wished, better and much easier than if the weather had proved dry and the ground consequently hard.

My Corn being out, or nearly so, I was obliged to have middlings and ship stuff mixed for bread for my white Servants, and the latter and rye for my Negroes till the New Corn is ripe enough to pull.

Thursday, 14th. At home all day repeating dozes of Bark, of which I took 4 with an interval of 2 hours between. After dinner Messrs. Thos. and Elliot Lee came in, as did Doctr. Craik by desire, on a visit to Betty,¹ who had been struck with the palsey. The whole stayed all Night.

Finished sowing Wheat and Timothy Seed on the 10 Acre piece of Wheat at Muddy hole this day. And also finished that cut with rye adjoining the Meadow in the Neck, it taking, including the $2\frac{1}{2}$ Bushels sowed in the piece between the gate and the Meadow, [] Bushels. On the small piece (sowed with $2\frac{1}{2}$ Bushels) by mistake a bushel of Timothy seed, nearly if quite clean, was sowed, which was at least 6 times as much as ought to have been sown.

Friday, 15th. After breakfast the two Mr. Lees and Doctr.

¹ Servant.

Craik went away. I rid to Muddy hole, and Neck Plantations. Treading out Wheat and Rye at both retarded fodder getting at the first, and Wheat Sowing at the other.

Sent my Boat to Alexandria for Molasses and Coffee which had been sent to me from Surinam by a Mr. Branden¹ of that place.

Saturday, 16th. Rid to Mr. Willm. Triplett's in expectation of meeting Mrs. French, in order to get the lease from her, and Deed from Mr. Triplett executed; but his indisposition and confinement to bed prevented the latter, and the non-attendance of Mrs. French and a misunderstanding with respect to the rent, she conceiving it was to be £150 per Ann. and I £136 only, put an end to the negotiation of the former.

I visited my Mill, Ditchers, and the Plantations at the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole. At the last, the fodder (top of blade) of the drilled corn was gathered and the Sowing of the Rye kept up with the plow. At the first, the same was done with the rye in the newly plowed field and the people had begun (on Thursday) to sow Wh[ea]t in the drilled Corn by the meadow.

On my return home found the Attorney General (Randolph) his Lady and two Children; and Mr. Charles Lee here. The last returned to Alexandria after Dinner under promise to come down to dinner to morrow, and that he would ask Mr. Herbert, Colo. Fitzgerald, and others to dine here also.

Sunday, 17th. Colo. Fitzgerald, Mr. Herbert, Col. Simms and Mr. Chs. Lee, and a Mr. Snow (living with Mr. Porter) came down to dinner and were detained by the rain all night.

¹ Samuel Branden, or Branton, as Washington writes the name in his letter-book. Surinam was a river in Dutch Guiana, from which the colony was sometimes so named.

Monday, 18th. Mr. Randolph, Lady and family, and all the Gentlemen from Alexandria left this as soon as the weather cleared — the first on his return to Richmond.

Rid to my Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue run, and Ferry. Plows and sowing Wheat and other grain, stopped at all the places.

In the Neck one of the Women and 2 girls began to gather Pease on Friday last. Nearly half of the vines appearing to be ripe.

Getting in the Fodder, or rather spreading it, at Muddy hole — being wet — that it might dry.

Tuesday, 19th. Rid to Muddy hole and into the Neck. No plowing in corn ground, but renewed it at Muddy hole and in the Neck for Rye in the Wheat Stubble. Began to get fodder in the Neck and at Morris's from the drilled Corn.

Wednesday, 20th. Rid to the Ferry, Muddy hole, and Dogue run. At the first the People had begun yesterday, and were at it to day, sowing Wheat in the drilled Corn by the meadow. The ground, especially in places, too wet. At the next, cutting down tops and securing the first cut fodder. At the latter, all except 3 plows which were breaking up more of the lay land, were getting fodder, it being too wet to sow Wheat in Corn ground.

My Farmer¹ sowed this day the lay land which had been broken up at this place by his own directions, part of which at the east end adjoining the Corn had been plowed [] days. The other part at the West and also adjoining the Corn had been plowed [] days. The first contns. about [] Acres; the 2d about []. This Wheat was put in in the following manner, viz. sowed on the first plowing, which tho' the ground was well enough broke, the sod was not properly turned. In the roughest and heaviest part the

¹ James Bloxham.

Seedsman was followed by a heavy harrow the same way as the ground was plowed; in the lighter part by two light harrows, side by side (fastened together), and the whole cross harrowed with the light double harrow to smooth and fill the hollows. Alongside this, I set two plows as above to break up about [] Acres more of the lay, and directed it to be sowed as fast as the Lands were finished, and to receive the same harrowings to try (the Land being nearly of the same quality) wch. method will succeed best.

Thursday, 21st. Rid to the Plantations in the Neck, Muddy hole, Dogue run, and Ferry; also to the ditchers.

At the first, the flax which was put out to Dew rot was turned yesterday; and the Fodder which the people begun to get yesterday was discontinued to day in order to get out Oats. At the second, finished Sowing Rye on the Wheat Stubble — put in 15 Bushels on abt. 13 Acres, — and securing the Fodder which has been cut and pulled at this place. At the 3d. gathering Fodder and plowing the lay land, and at the last threshing out Rye and putting in rye in the lay land.

Friday, 22d. Went to Mr. Triplett's in my way to Alexandria, and got his conveyance before Evidences of Manley's land. After which in the same manner in Town, obtained the signatures to the Deed of Mr. and Mrs. Sanford who were necessarily made parties thereto. Did business with Colo. Simms and others, and returned home in the evening.

Saturday, 23d. Rid to all the Plantations between breakfast and Dinnr. getting fodder at all and securing it, excepting the Ferry, where the People had just finished sowing the drilled Corn by the Meadow, which compleated all the Corn ground and all the Wheat sowing at this place.

Interrupted at the River Plantation in getting Fodder in order to clean Rye and Oats for the House.

In the Afternoon Mr. Josh. Jones,¹ Mr. Tucker and Lady; Doctr. Stuart, Mrs. Stuart, Betsy and Patcy Custis, came in and stayed all Night. My Nephews George and Lawrence (whom I had sent Horses for) came down before dinner.

Finished sowing Wheat upon the Lay land at Dogue run in the manner proposed. On this [] Bushels was sowed. On this part of the other which had been first plowed [] Bushels was sowed, and on the west side [] Bushels.

Sunday, 24th. The Company mentioned above remained here all day and Night. In the Afternoon Colo. Bassett, and his Son Burwell, arrived, with Servants and [] horses.

Monday, 25th. Sent Mr. Tucker and his Lady to Colchester. Doctr. Stuart, Mrs. Stuart and family together with Nelly Custis went up to Abingdon. In the Afternoon the Revd. Mr. Bryn. Fairfax came in and stayed all Night.

Began to day with my Waggon Horses at their leisure moments to plow alternate Lands, at Dogue run, in the Lay Land adjoining the Wheat sowed in it, to try the difference in Barley (if to be had) or Oats next Spring between fall and spring plowing.

Tuesday, 26th. Mr. and Mrs. Lund Washington dined here and returned in the afternoon.

At home all this as I was yesterday.

Mr. Bryan Fairfax went away after breakfast.

Wednesday, 27th. Colo. Bassett his son and George Wash-

¹ Joseph Jones, a Virginia delegate to the Continental Congress, 1778-79 and 1780-83. He was judge of the general court of Virginia and his sister, Elizabeth, married Spence Monroe and became the mother of President James Monroe.

ington took a ride to Alexandria. I rid into the Neck, by Muddy hole, to measure a piece of ground intended for Corn another year and to new model my fields.

Took up the flax that had been spread to rot at the latter place. Engaged at every plantation in gathering fodder. No plow going but at the ferry for Rye.

Put my Rams to the Ewes this day.

Thursday, 28th. Accompanied by Colo. Bassett, I rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue run, and Ferry. Employed in getting and securing Fodder at all of them.

Only one Ditcher at work in my Mill Swamp. The other left it (at least discontinued work) on Tuesday last.

Friday, 29th. Colo. Bassett and Mrs. Washington made a morning's visit at Mr. Lund Washington's.

I rid by Muddy hole Plantation into the Neck. Employed at both in gathering and securing Fodder.

The Flax which I thought had been taken up on Wednesday last was still on the ground. Directed it to be critically examined and taken up this afternoon, if it should be sufficiently rotted.

After dinner Majr. Washington and his wife set off for Fredericksburgh, intending as far as Belmont on Occoquan this afternoon.

Saturday, 30th. Rid to the Mill, Meadow, and Plantations at the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole. Gathering and securing fodder at all of them. At the last the whole would be gathered, but not secured this evening.

Mr. Burwell Bassett, Junr., left this after Breakfast.

Mr. McQuir¹ came here to Dinner and to invite me to the Academical commencement in Alexandria on Thursday next.

¹ McQuerr.

OCTOBER

[*Tuesday, 1st.*] Took an early Dinner and set out for Abingdon on my way to the Great Falls to meet the Directors of the Potomack Co.

Left Doctr. Craik at Mt. Vernon, who came in a few minutes before I set off.

Monday, 2d. Set out before Six O'clock, and arrived at the Great Falls abt. half after nine. Found Colo. Gilpin there and soon after Govrs. Johnson and Lee, and Colo. Fitzgerald and Mr. Potts arrived, when the board proceeded to enquire into the charges exhibited by Mr. James Rumsey the late, against Mr. Richardson Stuart, the present Manager of the Company's business. The examination of the Witnesses employed the board until dark, when the members dispersed for Lodgings. I went to Mr. Fairfax's.

Tuesday, 3d. Returned to the Falls by appointment at 7 O'clock to Breakfast; we proceeded immediately afterwards to a consideration of the evidence, and to decide upon each Article of charge: a record of which was made and upon the whole appeared (the charges) malignant, envious, and trifling. After this the board settled many Accts.¹ and adjourned till 8 o'clock next Morning.

Wednesday, 4th. The Board having agreed to a Petition to be offered to the Assemblies of Virga. and Maryland for prolonging the time allowed by Law for improving the Navigation of the River above the Great Falls, directed the Manager respecting the Winter Work for the hands. And having settled and regulated every other matter which came before them, broke up about three O'clock, when in company with Colos. Fitzgerald and Gilpin, and

¹ Among these accounts was one of Washington's for £34. 10s.

Mr. Potts I set off home. With much difficulty, on acct. of the rising of the Water by the rain of last Night, we crossed Difficult run and through a constant rain, till I had reached Cameron. I got home a little before 8 Oclock, where I found my Brother Jno. Auge. Washington.

Thursday, 5th. At home all day.

Friday, 6th. In the Afternoon (having first dined) rid with my Brother to Mr. Lund Washington's and returned. Found the Waters had been exceeding high.

Saturday, 7th. Immediately after breakfast my Brother left this, when I rid to all my Plantations. Found my People securing fodder in the Neck, Dogue run and Ferry. At the last of which the drilled corn by the Meadow was untouched. At Muddy hole the fodder had all been secured on Monday last, and some of the Wild Pea vine (such as came from the Eastn. Shore) had been pulled. The hands on Tuesday went to assist the Dogue run people to get in their fodder; a suspension of all wch. business was had on Wednesday afternoon and all day Thursday. In the Neck, the first gathering of 6 rows of drilled pease measured $4\frac{3}{4}$ bushels; and the first gathering of the next 6 rows planted in rows also, but 18 Inches apart in the rows yielded $6\frac{1}{2}$ bushels.

Sunday, 8th. Mr. Rumney,¹ Mr. Powell, and Mr. Patterson an English Gentn. dined here and returned in the Afternoon.

Monday, 9th. Rid to all the Plantations and to the Ditchers in my Mill swamp. Finished securing Fodder at the River Quarter, and would nearly do so at Dogue run.

¹ John Rumney.

At the Ferry, gathering the Fodder of the Drilled Corn by the Meadow. Pulling pease in the Neck with the small hands. Allowed all my People to go to the races in Alexandria on one of three days as best comported with their respective businesses, leaving careful persons on the Plantations.

Tuesday, 10th. In company with Major Washington (who with his wife returned yesterday evening from Fredericksburgh) and Mr. Lear went up to Alexandria to see the Jockey club purse run for (which was won by Mr. Snickers¹). Dined by invitation with the Members of it and returned home in the evening.

Wednesday, 11th. Majr. Washington, his wife, and Nelly and Washington Custis went up to the race at Alexa. All but the Major returned to Dinner with Betsy and Patcy Custis along with them.

I rid to all the Plantations, found most of my People had gone to the races. Those remaining in the Neck were clearing rye which had been tread out the day before and preparing to continue their Wheat sowing tomorrow.

Thursday, 12th. Rid to all the Plantations. Began in the Neck to sow Wheat in the middle cut of drilled Corn.

Ferry people all gone to the race and those at home at Dogue run all idle — Overseer being gone to the race.

In the Afternoon Doctr. Stuart and his wife, Mr. Fitzhugh of Chatham, Mr. Pressly Thornton,² Mr. Townshend Dade, and Mr. Stith, came here, and stayed all Night.

Friday, 13th. All the company except Mrs. Stuart went away directly after breakfast. She with Betsy and Patcy Custis did not leave this till after dinner.

¹ Son of Captain Edward Snickers, of Loudoun County.

² Peter Presley Thornton, of Northumberland; he had been an aide to Washington during the Revolution.

Rid to the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole Plantations, and to the Mill and Ditchers. Finished securing the Fodder at the Ferry. Tread out a stack of Wheat at Dogue run in order to renew my sowing of this grain at that place. Tried here and in the Neck to plow before sowing, then sow and harrow in, but it would not answer in the Corn ground. The grass occasioned the Earth to be drawn in heaps. Began to pull the early Corn at Muddy hole.

Saturday, 14th. Rid to all the Plantations. In the Neck, found the rain of last Night had wet the Corn ground so much that there was no plowing in Wheat. Ordered them to shift to the Wheat Stubble (where they had formerly been) and Plow for Rye. Finding at the same place that part of the first sowed Rye had either not come up, or had been destroyed by some insect, I directed that part of the first cut, North of the Meadow, to be sowed over again; and to be harrowed in by the double harrow, if sufficient to cover the grain. At Muddy hole gathering the early Corn and husking it; at Dogue run Sowing Wheat — the ground, in places rather too wet. At the Ferry just finished plowing, sowing and harrowing the ground allotted for Rye at the Ferry, and securing the fodder. Directed, as the fly appeared to be getting into the Wheat more or less at all the Plantations, that that at the Ferry should be immediately tread out and sent to the Mill.

Sunday, 15th. Accompanied by Majr. Washington his wife, Mr. Lear and the two Childn., Nelly and Washington Custis, went to Pohick Church and returned to Dinner. Fell in with on the Road, Colo. Jno. Mercer, his Lady and Child, coming here, and their Nurse.

Monday, 16th. Colo. Mercer, etca., crossed the River after breakfast on their way to Annapolis.

Majr. Washington and myself went up to Alexandria, and dined at Lomax's. Got the Deed from Manley's Exrs. acknowledged to me in open Court, and for the 2d time agreed with Mr. Wm. Triplett for the use of Mrs. French's ¹ Plantation, for wch. during Robinson's ² term and Interest in it, I am, for the Land and Negroes, to pay £136 and 150£ afterwards during her life.

Returned home in the Evening.

Tuesday, 17th. At home all day. Began to set a brick kiln.

Wednesday, 18th. Rid by Muddy hole and Dogue run Plantations to Mr. Triplett. 3 plows and most of the hands from the first had gone to the latter to assist in sowing Wheat in Corn ground.

Having met Mrs. French at Mr. Triplett's, I concluded the bargain with her for her plantation and Negroes in my Neck, and had a Lease executed for the same; and sent word to a Mr. Robertson, the present tenant, to come to me to see if I cd. mortgage him to quit it; and coming accordingly some propositions were made by him of which he was to consider till Saturday night or Monday morning, and then give an answer.

Monsr. Custer, French Consul at Williamsburgh, and Mr. Lacaze, two French Gentlemen, dined here and returned to Alexa. in the evening.

Thursday, 19th. Rid to my Plantations in the Neck and Muddy hole and from thence to Colo. McCarty's to Dinner, where I met Mrs. Washington and Fanny Washington.

¹ Mrs. Penelope French, widow of Daniel French. The deed, now in private hands, is dated October 18, 1786.

² John Robertson, the same person as mentioned in entry under October 18 *infra*.

On our return home found Mr. John Dawson and Mr. Theode. Lee here.

In the Neck my People were sowing Wheat; but the ground was much too wet for it; but it was either to be put in in this condition or put off altogether. The former I chose. The resowing of Rye (directed on Saturday last) had been suspended, and was now put off altogether to see whether the part which appeared so thin would come to any thing. Sowing Rye on the new plowed Wheat stubble and had it harrowed and cross harrowed, which put the ground in much finer order than the single harrowing had done the first. This Rye had both the harrowings after it was sowed, as the lay land at Dogue run was managed. At Muddy hole the Overseer and two or three of the Weak hands (therest being at Dogue run) were gathering the Wild (or Magity bay) Pea — a tedious operatn.

Friday, 20th. Rid (after Mr. Dawson and Mr. Lee went away) first to the Ferry plantation, and thence to Dogue run, through the Plantation lately rented of Mrs. French, which I find less injured by Gullies than I expected.

At the Ferry the people were getting out the Wheat, and at Dogue run upon the point of finishing sowing the last cut of common Corn (about the Houses.) After which I directed them to sow part of the drilled Corn.

In the afternoon Geo. Dunnington, a Tenant of mine in Charles County, Maryland, came in to give an Acct. of the situation of the place on which he lives, and of the attempts to take part of the Land away by one Strumat.

It ought to have been mentioned on Thursday that the early Corn drilled, in alternate rows, at Muddy hole had been measured; that of it there was only 19 Barrls. of sound Corn, 3 Barrls. of faulty Corn (fit only for Hogs), and 2 Barrls. of the common Corn which had got intermixed. In all from these Alternate rows, 24 Barrls. Much

rotten and bad corn was found in this early kind, and proves as well from the experiment of this year, as the last, that it does not do in this climate or soil.

Saturday, 21st. Colo. Richard Henry Lee with his daughter Nancy, who came here yesterday to dinner going away after breakfast, I rid into the Neck, and to Muddy hole, and Dogue run Plantations.

At the first the People had finished sowing Wheat about Noon yesterday; and to day were picking up the fallen Corn and gathering the residue of the Pease. The Plows were preparing the Wheat Stubble for rye, and sowing it. At Dogue run the Plows had got into the drilled Corn, the Stalk of which were cut down and entirely taken of the ground. The ground with this plowing seemed to be in perfect tilth, and in good order. I was about to harrow it after sowing and plowing, but my Farmer advised the contrary and I desisted.

Sunday, 22d. The Honble. Wm. Drayton¹ and Mr. Walter Izard² came here to dinner and stayed all Night. Mr. Rumney, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Porter, also came here to dinner, all of whom except the first went away after it.

Monday, 23d. Mr. Rumney went away directly after breakfast, and Mrs. Washington with Nelly and Washington Custis, for Abingdon about the same time.

I remained at home all day. In the evening Colo. Monroe,³ his Lady and Mr. Maddison⁴ came in.

Tuesday, 24th. Mr. Drayton and Mr. Izard set out after breakfast on their Rout to South Carolina.

¹ John Drayton, son of William Henry Drayton, of South Carolina.

² Son of Ralph Izard.

³ James Monroe.

⁴ James Madison.

I remained at home all day, being prevented from going up to Abingdon to Meet Mrs. Washington according to promise by the above company.

Entered into articles of agreement, and bonds for the performance of the Covenants with John Robertson for the Plantation I lately leased of Mrs. French, and on which he lives.

Sent up to Abingdon for a young Bull of extraordinary make, for which I had exchanged and given a young heifer of the same age.

Wednesday, 25th. Mr. Maddison, and Col. Monroe and his Lady, set out after breakfast for Fredericksburgh.

I called at the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole plantations on my way to Mr. Fendall's where I met Mrs. Washington, dined, and returned home in the evening, bringing Betsy and Patcy Custis with the other two home with us.

Found all the Wheat at the Ferry tread out but not quite cleaned or carried to the Mill. At Muddy hole the 4 rows of Irish Potatoes had been dugged, out of one which appeared to be best set (though they were all much missing) $2\frac{1}{4}$ bushels were obtained, and from the other 3 rows $4\frac{1}{2}$ Bushels were gathered — in all $6\frac{3}{4}$ Bushels. This at best is a poor encrease, but would have been very bad if the rows had been nearly compleated, but this they were not. The flat places having none on them.

Thursday, 26th. Immediately after breakfast I rid into the Neck, and to Muddy hole and Dogue run Plantations. At the first finished sowing all and plowing in all the Rye, but had not compleated the harrowing and Hoeing of it. This comprehended the 3d. cut of Wheat, and the furthest cut of drilled Corn, except 52 rows, which were left for Oats in the Spring. And this sowing having advanced 18

rows into the Corn which had Peas between, I directed the same number of Pea rows in the middle cut to be sowed with Wheat to bring them even. This would be set about to morrow. Ordered three plows from this place to Dogue run to assist in putting in the Wheat and Rye there, wch. was more backward than at any other place in sowing. At Muddy hole the people had recommenced sowing rye in the Corn ground which had been left for this purpose. The Pease on the 6 rows in the Neck which had been drilled or sowed thick, yielded 15 bushels after they were cleaned (besides the green ones), and the next 6 rows of the same kind, dropped 18 inches in the row, measured (besides the green ones) 16 Bushels. The whole field therefore (if Pease had been planted between all the Corn rows) would have yielded at this rate, 410 bushels, there being 159 of them; and it is to be observed that many of the rows, if not all of them, were greatly missing, occasioned by too early planting and the frequent rains which drowned them in all low and cold places. Ordered a piece of ground to be prepared in the Neck on which to transplant Turneps for the purpose of Saving Seed.

Colo. and Mrs. McCarty, and Colo. Ball and his Lady, came here to dinner and returned afterwards; and abt. Sun down Mr. Mayo ¹ and his wife and Miss D'Hart,² in a Post Chaise and 4, came in.

Friday, 27th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole, and examined the Land I lately bought from the Exr. of Manley more attentively. Find some of it in very good condition, and other parts much gullied and worn, and that there is more and better meadow ground on it than I expected.

¹ Possibly John Mayo, the son of John, of Chesterfield and Henrico Counties.

² Miss D'Hart, of Elizabethtown, New Jersey. She had reputation as a clever silhouette cutter.

Saturday, 28th. Mr. Mayo, his Wife and Miss D'Hart went away after breakfast.

Rid to the Plantations in the Neck, Muddy hole, and Dogue run. At the first compleated sowing Wheat yesterday and finished covering Rye with the Hoes and Harrows the same day.

Gathering for plantation use some of the drilled Corn at Muddy hole, and plowed a poor $\frac{1}{2}$ acre to Cowpen on. Taking up the Irish Potatoes at Dogue run out of the way of the Wheat sowing.

Found Mrs. Stuart and her two youngest Children here on my return home.

Sunday, 29th. About noon Mrs. Stuart and one of her youngest Children left this for Mr. Lund Washington's. At the same time I crossed the River with intention to view and Survey my land in Charles County, Maryland. Went to and lodged at Govr. Smallwood's,¹ about 14 Miles from the Ferry.

Monday, 30th. About One oclock, accompanied by the Governor, I set out to take a view of my land which lay 12 Miles from his House. After doing which and finding it rather better than I expected we returned to the Governr's, having from the badness of the Weather and wetness of the ground given over the idea of Surveying. This land lyes full level enough. The cleared part has been lively and good, but much abused and a good deal worked. The Wood part, of wch. there is a good deal, is tolerably full of rail timber and wood (chiefly spanish Oak and black Jack), but the Soil is thin and of a mean quality, tho very capable of improvement from the Nature of it and levelness. Govr. Smallwood thinks the whole is worth and would sell for

¹ William Smallwood, brigadier-general of the Maryland Brigade in the Revolution, and Governor of the State in 1785.

35 or 40/. Shillings Maryland Curry. per Acre, and seems to have an inclination to buy it himself, and that his Manager (one Franklin) is that way inclined also. Being informed by my Tenant (on this Land), George Dunnington, of a vacancy containg. 20 or 30 acres within, or adjoining to my lines, the Governor promised to obtain a warrant for it on my behalf, and a Mr. Stromat who had obtained Warrants for sevl. vacancies, one of which being within my tract, sent me word by the above Geo. Dunnington that I might have the latter (more than 100 Acres) upon condition of my paying a proportionate part of the expence he had been at to obtain them, which I consented to do and sent him word so by Dunnington.

Tuesday, 31st. After breakfast I left Govr. Smallwood's and got home to dinner. Attempted to cross at the Widow Chapman's in order to pay Colo. Mason a visit, but could not get over.

NOVEMBER

Wednesday, 1st. Rid to all the Plantations, and to the Ditchers. Found, in the Neck, that the people had begun to take up the Irish Potatoes, and during the rain had been cleaning rye and thrashing out the Pease; and yesterday, and part of this day, were setting out (the summer) Turnips for Seed. At Muddy hole, Sowing rye, and at Dogue run, that 3 pecks of the black spelt had been sowed yesterday in the drilled Corn next the Swamp, where the turnips and Cabbages had been planted at the North end. On Saturday last one plow had begun a Winter fallow for Oats, adjoining the rye at the Ferry; and the other people were clearing the Briers and Shrubs out of the way of it. The Ditchers had nearly compleated the middle ditch on Saturday, but the rain on Monday obliged them to shift to the upper ditch.

On my return found Mrs. Stuart.

Thursday, 2d. Rid to the Ferry, Dogue run and Muddy hole Plantations. From the latter the Potatoes and Pease were brought home. Of the former there were [] Bushels, whereof [] were of the large kind (had from the Revd. Mr. Stuart). The Potatoes at Dogue run, from the rows planted in the drilled Corn, measured $38\frac{1}{2}$ Bushels. At this place the Plows were at work for Rye crossing the Corn rows; on which plowing I mean to sow the grain and then harrow and cross harrow the ground, as had been done before with both Wheat and rye. At the ferry getting out Rye directed one, or two plows to assist in breaking up the ground at this place, if the plowers could do it well. Left this to the Overseer to determine.

Levelled round to the Road, at a Stake by the bridge near Manley's, and begun to do the same on the other side of Muddy hole swamp from the plank bridge.

Mr. Lund Washington and his wife dined here and returned in the evening.

Friday, 3d. At home writing Letters.

Saturday, 4th. Rid to all the Plantations. In the Neck, finished gathering and measuring the Irish Potatoes, wch. turned out as follow, viz. In the Cut next the Barn 100 Bushels. There being 10 rows, every alternate one had a sprinkling of dung; 4 of which produced 52 bushels. The other being of another kind of Potatoes, produced not more than 1 Bushel, the 5 undunged rows yielded 48 Bushels. The Middle cut turned out 50 Bushels, and the Easternmost cut 25 Bushels only. As the number and length of the Rows were the same in these as the first, the differe. in the quantity is to be ascribed to the difference of Land, and to that part of the first cut in wch. the Potatoes

grew having been dunged formerly over and above the sprinkling it got at Seed time. It is to be noted, however that the last mentioned cuts were more missing than the first; and the whole more or less so. At Muddy hole completed sowing the rye; and at Dogue run only began this day to sow. The ground being too wet before. At the Ferry 2 plows employed in fallowing.

On my return home found Colo. Pinkney,¹ his Lady and 4 Childn. Mrs. Middleton,² her Child, nurse, etca., here. Also Mr. Robt. and Mr. Lawe. Washington and Mr. Thompson. The 3 last went away after dinner, the others stayed all Night.

Sunday, 5th. Colo. Pinckney, etca. set out after breakfast.

At home all day writing.

Monday, 6th. After breakfast Mrs. Stuart and all her Children, except Washington Custis, went away.

I rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole, making a farm pen at the latter.

On my return home, found Colo. Lewis Morris,³ and his Brother Major Jacob Morris here, who dined and returned to Alexandria afterwards, where Mrs. Lewis Morris ⁴ and her Mother, Mrs. Elliot,⁵ were on their way to Charleston.

Tuesday, 7th. Rid to all the Plantations to day. In the Neck the people had just finished gathering and measuring the Pease which *in all* amounted to only 80 Bushels. They

¹ Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, of South Carolina.

² Mrs. Arthur (?) Middleton, of South Carolina.

³ Lewis Morris, of New York, son of the Signer of the Declaration of Independence.

⁴ Jacob Morris had been major and aide to Major-General Charles Lee and afterwards to Major-General Nathanael Greene.

⁵ Mrs. Andrew (?) Elliot.

were in places very much missing to which this short quantity is principally ascribed. Some had not ripened and were destroyed by the frost and left on the vines. Ordered the three plows belonging to Muddy hole to go to Dogue run to assist in getting in the rye whilst the Weather continued good.

My old Farmer ¹ thinking the Nights had got too long tho' the weather as yet has been mild, to keep the Cattle in open pens on the naked ground, I ordered the whole not to be penned till proper shelters were made for them.

Wednesday, 8th. Rid to the Ferry and Dogue run Plantations. At the first, the Wheat and rye having been all Tread and threshed out, there was in the whole of the former [] Bushels; and of the latter [] Bushels. The people were employed in digging the Irish Potatoes near the Fish House; at the latter 9 plows and 2 harrows employed in getting in rye — the rest of the People getting off the Corn and Stalks of the only unsowed Corn ground at this Plantation.

The Farmer ² having carrd. the level and staked it for conducting the Water on the South side of Muddy hole swamp below the fork by Manley's old House, and Cornelius McDermot Roe having done the same on the No. Side from the plank bridge on Muddy hole (where the farmer also began), I tried with a water level across in several places within Manley's field and found that the farmer was higher on his side than the other by between 13 and 16 Inches. But this will make no essential difference in a ditch for the water 18 Inches deep.

Thursday, 9th. Rid to the River, Muddy hole, and Dogue run Plantations. At the first the People were employed in removing the Potatoes from thence to the Mansion House;

¹ Bloxham.

² *Ibid.*

at the 2d, in gathering Corn, except the 3 plow people who were at Work at Morris's; at the 3d, they were employed as yesterday.

Friday, 10th. With Mrs. Washington and all the family, I went to Alexanda. and dined with Doctr. Craik. Returned in the Evening.

Saturday, 11th. Rid to the Mill, and to Dogue run and Muddy hole plantations. At the first names Plantation finished plowing for Rye in the Morning, but there remained of it 8 or 10 Acres to sow and harrow in. By Night the ground from which the Corn and Stalks had been taken off would be plowed (4 or 5 Acres of it) for to lay down in Spelts provided for me by Colo. Deakins.

Having received a letter from Baltimore, announcing the arrival of three Asses (a Male and two females) from the Marquis de la Fayette for me, together with some Pheasants and Patridges from France, I sent my Overseer Jno. Fairfax and a servant to bring the former.

Received from the Ferry Plantation $48\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of a fine red (Irish) Potatoo, which were planted in the rows of drill corn by the fish house. This with [] bushels of the White kind, which were planted in the missing places — of which after all the replanting, there were many — is what came of that piece of drilled ground.

The common Corn in the alternate rows of Drilled, at Muddy hole, turned out 28 Barrels, wch. is 7 Barrels more than the other rows did of the early Corn. In the Neck the disproportion between these is much greater.

Monday, 13th. Rid to all the Plantations, getting up Hogs for feeding at all. Finished sowing and harrowing in Rye at Dogue run, and began to gather Corn in the Neck and at the Ferry for lofting.

Agreed to let the Widow Alton have the House used for a School by my Mill, if the School should be discontinued; and

Told James Bloxham, my Farmer, who was about to write to England for his Wife and family, and who proposed the measure that he might write to one Caleb Hall, a Neighbour of his in Gloucestershire (who had expressed a desire to come to this Country, and who he said was a compleat Wheel right, Waggon builder, and Plow and Hurdle maker), that I wd. give him 25 Guineas a year for his Services (if he paid his own passage to this Country) the first year, and if I found he answered my purposes, and we liked each other, that I might give him 30 guineas the next year, and held out encouragement, if he chose to work for himself, that I would provide him with some place to live at. Whilst with me that he should be found in Provisions, Washing and lodging.

Tuesday, 14th. Rid to Muddy hole, Dogue run, and Ferry Plantations. At the latter compleated all my fall sowing of Winter grain, by putting into the Corn ground wch. had been prepared for the purpose, $6\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of the Common Spelts. This ground after the Corn and stalks were taken off, was plowed, the grain then Sowed, and harrowed and cross harrowed. The Soil is strong, but being very grassy, the Spelts with all this working were not put in very well. Some places not being broke, and by means of the grass choaking the harrow, drawn, it is to be feared, in heaps — abt. 5 Acres of it.

Beat about one Bushel of the Wild Crab into pumice, and sowed it in the hop Inclosure — lower end — in 19 rows, one foot apart.

Wednesday, 15th. Rid to Muddy hole and Dogue run Plantations. The hands at these places and the ferry at work on the public Roads.

Attempted to level to day, but the wind was too high to admit it.

Thursday, 16th. Mr. and Mrs. Fendall came from Maryland here to Breakfast, as did Mr. Willm. Craik; after which they all went away.

Rid into the Neck, and to Muddy hole plantations; At the first having measured the remainder of the Middle cut of drilled Corn it was found to turn out 85 Barls. The further, or Eastermost cut of drilled Corn in the same field turned out miserably bad, there being only 6 barrl. of the early Corn, and 18 of the other or common corn. Here the difference against the early or Eastern is found greater than at Muddy hole, and decidedly in both in favor of the common corn of the Country.

On my return home, found Mons. Campoint, sent by the Marqs. de la Fayette with the Jack and two She Asses which he had procured for me in the Island of Malta, and which had arrived at Baltimore with the Chinese Pheasants, &ca., had, with my Overseer, &ca., got there before me.¹ These Asses are in good order and appear to be very fine. The Jack is two years old and the She Asses, one three and the other two. The Pheasants and Patridges will come round by Water.

¹ The jacks and jennets were sent in furtherance of Washington's desire to introduce a good breed of mules in the United States. The King of Spain sent him a pair (one of which died on the way). 'The Spanish jack seems calculated to breed for heavy slowdraught; and the others [the Lafayette jacks] for the saddle or lighter carriages. From these, altogether, I hope to secure a race of extraordinary goodness, which will stock the country. Their longevity and cheap keeping will be circumstances much in their favor. I am convinced, from the little experiments I have made with the ordinary mules (which perform as much labor, with vastly less feeding than horses), that those of a superior quality will be the best cattle we can employ for the harness; and indeed in a few years, I intend to drive no other in my carriage, having appropriated for the sole purpose of breeding them, upwards of twenty of my best mares.' (*Washington to Arthur Young*, 1788, December 4.)

Friday, 17th. At home writing all day.¹ Finished the ditch along the side of my Mill meadow intended to conduct the water in common heights of the Run.

Saturday, 18th. Rid to the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole Plantations, gathering and husking Corn at all. Also rid to the Ditchers, who had begun to scour a ditch in the Mill Meadow. One of them, James Lawson, went up to Town to day. Yesterday they entered upon standing wages.

Monsr. Campion accompanied by Mr. Lear went to Alexandria and returned in the Evening.

Sunday, 19th and Monday, 20th. At home all day.

Tuesday, 21st. Rid to the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole Plantn., gathering and husking Corn at all of them.

Sent George Washington to Town on business.

Colo. Darke² dined here.

¹ On this day Washington wrote to Lafayette: 'On Thursday last I received in very good order from Baltimore under the care of Monsr. Compont, the most valuable things you could have sent me, a Jack and two she Asses, all of which are very fine. The Pheasants and Partridges are coming around by water, for these also I pray you accept my thanks.' Jacques Compont lost his pocketbook, money and papers on the way and Washington did not know whether these animals were a gift or not. He wrote to Lafayette asking for a memorandum of the expense but there is nothing in the Washington Papers settling the matter. It seems, however, that the jacks were a gift from the Marquis. Washington wrote to Compont, Feb. 14, 1787: 'The asses are in very good order, but I am sorry to inform you that the Gold cock and the silver hen pheasant are dead; the others appear to be drooping and I am afraid that all the care and attention which is paid to them will not be able to preserve them.'

In connection with this matter the entries in *Ledger B* under the head of Lafayette are interesting. On the credit side, 1786, Oct., the Marquis is credited 'By one Jack Ass and two Jennetts sent to me by you from the Island of Malta,' and on the debit side, 1793, Jan. 29, 'To a bill of exchange for 2310 Guilders Holld. Currency drawn by George Meade on Henry Gildermeester, of Amsterdam, in favor of Nicholas Van Staphorst, the amos. of which Mr. Van Staphorst was requested to hold subject to the order of Madme. Lafayette; who was at the same time written to informing her thereof amt. 200 guineas.' In neither case is any charge entered in the figure columns.

² Lieutenant-Colonel William Drake, of the Fourth Virginia Regiment during the Revolution.

Wednesday, 22d. At home all day.

Thursday, 23d. Rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole and Dogue run, at the first raking of dung, at the other gathering and husking of Corn.

Set James Lawson and his comrade, Patrick Sheriden, to running a level ditch 2 feet wide at top, 1 at Bottom, and a spit deep, from the bridge over Muddy hole by the Corner of the fence till it should come to the Road by the other bridge and branch.

On my return home found Colo. (or Judge) Harrison of Maryland here, as also Mr. Willm. Craik.

Friday, 24th. After breakfast Judge Harrison and Mr. Craik returned to Maryland. I rid to the Ditchers and thence to the Ferry Plantation, Grubbing at the latter and getting up wild hogs.

Major Washington went into the Neck, and to Muddy hole. At the first he measured $86\frac{1}{2}$ Barrels of Corn, gathered from the drilled cut of Corn nearest the Barn, and at Muddy hole he Measured 67 Barrls., which was gathered out of the Middle Cut, besides 14 Barls. of Short Corn givn. Hogs.

Saturday, 25th. Rid to Alexandria, to place the Papers respecting the Administration of Colo. Thos. Colvill's Estate in the hands of Mr. Keith to adjust and settle them, and to do some other Business.

Bought the time of a Dutch family, consisting of a Man, by profession a Ditcher, Mower, etca., A Woman, his wife, a Spinner, Washer, Milker, and their child — names, Daniel Overdonck, Margaret Overdonck [and] Anna Overdonck.

Dined at Colo. Hooe's and returned home in the evening.

Sunday, 26th. The following Gentlemen dined here: — Colonels Hooe and Henley, Dr. Craik, Mr. Porter, Mr. Swift, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Jenkes, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Lowry,¹ Mr. Abenethy, Mr [], Mr. Peran, Captns. Sullivan and [] Lund Washington, all of whom went away in the Evening.

Monday, 27th. Rid to the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole Plantations; also to the Mill and to the Ditchers. About the Corn at all the places. Measd. 68 Barls. at Dogue run.

The Revd. Mr. Keith, and the Revd. Mr. Morse ² dined here and returned to Alexandria in the Evening.

Received my Chinese Pheasants, etca., from Baltimore by the Packet, viz. a Cock and Hen of the Gold Pheast.; a Cock and Hen of the Silver Pheast.; a Cock and 2 Hens of the French Pheast.; and one French Patridge. The other French Patridge died in coming round from Baltimore.

The German Man, his Wife and Child ³ came home last Night by Water from Alexanda.

Tuesday, 28th. A Hound bitch which like most of my other hounds appearing to be going Mad and had been shut up, getting out, my Servant Will, in attempting to get her in again, was snapped at by her at the Arm. The Teeth penetrated through his Coat and Shirt and contused the Flesh, but he says did not penetrate the skin nor draw any blood. This happened on Monday forenoon. The part affected appeared to swell a little to day.

Rid to the Plantations at Dogue run, Muddy hole, and in the Neck. Set my Dutchman to ditching within the

¹ William Lowry.

² The Reverend Jedidiah Morse, father of Samuel F. B. Morse. The Reverend Jedidiah published the first American geography, 1784, in Connecticut.

³ The Overdoncks. (See entry for November 25, *ante*.)

fence at the Ferry where the water level of the branch was traced out.

Wednesday, 29th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole, and to the ditchers.

At the first G. Washington measured 72 Barrls. of Corn from the cut on the flat (exclusive of the drilled corn), which with 9 used for the Hogs and 6 for the Negroes makes 87 out of that Cut.

At the same time John Fairfax, my Overseer, [measured] 76 Barrls. in the Neck from the Cut next the Barn.

Gathering, husking, and securing Corn at all the Plantations.

Mr. Campion (who brought the Asses and Pheasants here from the Marqs. de la Fayette [set out] for Alexa., to proceed in the stage for Baltimore. Gave him 30 Louisdors for his trouble.

Thursday, 30th. Surveying my New purchases of Manley's and French's Land, in order to lay the whole of into proper inclosures.

Geo. Washington went up to Abingdon in my Chariot to bring his wife and Nelly Custis home, who went thither on Monday last.

Jno. Fairfax measured 42 Barrls. of Corn at Muddy hole, gathered out of the Eastermost (and furthest) cut in the field.

Mr. Lear left this for the Western Parts of Pensylva. in the Neighbourhood of Pittsburgh on my business.¹

¹ The instructions to Lear, in Washington's handwriting, are in the Washington Papers, Library of Congress, under date of November 30th. Lear was to examine into the tenantry of Washington's land on Miller's Run in Washington County, Pennsylvania, and into that in Fayette County, which was known as Washington's bottom. The first was a 280-acre tract and the second a 1650-acre tract. Lear was to endeavor to employ either Colonel John Neville or Major George McCormick to act as Washington's agent, collect rents, etc., and carried with him a blank power of attorney for that purpose. He was to see Freeman and

DECEMBER

Friday, 1st. Employed as yesterday, running round the Lands of Manley and French.

Geo. Washington and his wife returned home in the Evening.

Received 50 Bushels of Buck Wheat from Colo. Leven Powell of Loudoun.

Saturday, 2d. Finished running round the Fields of Manley's and French's and rid afterwards to Dogue run and Muddy hole plantations.

Measured at the latter 19 Barrls. of long Corn and 6 of Short which, with the 42 Measured there on Thursday last, makes 67 out of that cut, and 201 Barrls. in all made at the Plantation this year.

Sunday, 3d. At home all day alone.

Monday, 4th. No stirring out to day. Doctr. Craik who had been sent for to a laying in Woman at the River Plantation came here after dark and stayed all Night.

Tuesday, 5th. Doctr. Craik went away after Breakfast. I remained at home all day writing.

Wednesday, 6th. Writing in the forenoon prevented my riding out to day also.

Major Washington measured $41\frac{1}{2}$ barrls. of Corn at Dogue run to day.

Thursday, 7th. Rid to the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy

get a report from him on the other Fayette County lands, and was to visit the Great Meadows lands on the way home. Freeman's report is in the Washington Papers, Library of Congress, 1786, December 18, and Lear brought back with him a list of Washington's tenants, showing the amount of their rentals. This two-page folio list, under date of 1786, is in the Washington Papers.

hole Plantations; also to the Mill, and to the Ditchers. Grubbing at the first place; and beating out and cleaning, for house use, Corn at the latter; gathering in, and husking this at Dogue run.

The Wheat made, and disposition of it at the Ferry is as follows: Made, Bushels — $245\frac{1}{3}$. How disposed of: Sowed, 95 bls., Sent to D. Run, 20; Ditto to the Mill, $130\frac{1}{3}$. [Total,] $245\frac{1}{3}$.

Acct. of Rye made at the same place, — and disposition of it: Made, Bushels — 139. Disposed of: Sowed, 25 Bls.; Do. sent to D. Run, $28\frac{1}{2}$; Do. to Home Ho., 26; Do. to Muddy hole, $19\frac{1}{2}$; Given to the Horses, 25; Overseer's Share, 15. [Total] 139.

At Muddy hole, 2 Stacks of Rye of equal size with three remaining have been got out, and disposed of as follows: To Dogue run, $52\frac{1}{2}$ Bushls.; Sowed, 28; Given to the Horses, $24\frac{1}{2}$. [Total,] 105.

Friday, 8th. Rid to where the Ditchers were at work and to the Ferry Plantation.

Saturday, 9th. Received the Accts. of Wheat sown at Dogue run — 159 Bushels.

Monday, 11th. At home all day.

My Ditchers not being able to level and thereby to carry on the Ditch they were about, I shifted them to the Wood, on the hither side Muddy hole branch wch. had been levelled by my Farmer.

In the afternoon a Mr. Anstey¹ (Commissioner from England for ascertaining the claims of the refugees) with a Mr. Woodorf (supposed to be his Secretary) came in and stayed all Night.

¹ John Anstey. The Commission was better known as the Loyalists' Claims Commission, through which Great Britain compensated the loyalists of the Revolution for the property losses suffered by them as the result of the war.

Tuesday, 12th. Mr. Anstey and his companion going away about 11 O'clock, I rid to the Ditchers and to Dogue run Plantation, also to Muddy hole — little doing at either.

Geo. Washington went to the Ferry Plantation and measured the corn which was drilled. In the small piece by the fish house, containing rather under 2 acres, the yield was 9 Barrels. 1 bushel and an half; and in the other piece adjoining the Meadow containing $16\frac{1}{4}$ Acres, the yield was 29 Barrels. It is to be observed of both, that they were late planted, which was apparently of considerable disadvantage to them, and of the latter, that it was of the Eastern rare-ripe Corn which had yielded so unproductively both at Muddy hole and in the Neck.

Wednesday, 13th. Rid to the Ferry, Dogue run and Muddy hole Plantations, and to the Ditchers. At the first the People had begun to gather Corn in the cut on the Hill. At Dogue run the hands were also employed in gathering and husking od Corn. At Muddy hole a yard was cleaning out to tread Rye.

Thursday, 14th. Rid to the Neck, and all the other Plantations, and to the Ditchers. At Muddy hole the hands were employed in threshing Wheat. At all the others gathering Corn as usual.

Doctr. LaMoyeur came in just as we were going to dinner.

Friday, 15th. Mr. Bushrod Washington, his Wife, and Miss Polly Blackburne,¹ came here whilst we were at Dinner.

The River in the Ferry way became entirely free from Ice this Morning, and my Boat and hands which had been

¹ Daughter of Colonel Thomas Blackburn, of Prince William County.

froze up on the Maryland side since Saturday last returned.
At home all day.

Saturday, 16th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole. Gathering and husking Corn at the two first; Treading out a Stack of Rye at the latter.

Received the following Acct. of the Corn measured in the Neck by Jno. Fairfax, to day, viz. 42 Barrels from the river side cut, which makes the whole crop stand thus at that Plantation

Drilled Corn

Cut nearest the Barn.....	86½
Middle cut.....	85
Easternmost ditto.....	24
	<u>195½</u>

Common Planting

Cut next the Barn.....	76
Middle — do.....	74
River side cut.....	42
Total.....	<u>387½</u>

The Oats made at, and recd. from that Plantation this year are
Of those drilled between

the rows of drilled Corn	55
From the point 29 Acres.....	275
Total.....	<u>330</u>

The Wheat sowed here this year,	Bush
is — In the field on the River.....	126
In part of the Middle cut	
Timberlanding field.....	30
In all.....	<u>156</u>

Rye Ditto in field No. 1.....	50
Eastrn. most cut of No. 2.....	19
Sowed in all....	<u>69</u>

Besides the Rye Sowed, as mentioned on the other side, there has been used	Bush
by the Negroes.....	25
Ditto by the Horses.....	65
Sent to Dogue run.....	19
Brought from other side.....	69
	<u>178</u>

Sunday, 17th. In the Afternoon a Mr. Brown, son of Mr. Jno. Brown of Providence,¹ came in and stayed all Night.

Monday, 18th. George Washington went up to town on my business.

I rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole.

Gathering and husking Corn at the two first, and cleaning rye at the latter.

Rid also to the place where James Lawson ought to have been at work, but he was not there. Patrick Sheriden his companion, was discharged on friday evening last.

Doctr. Craik who had visited Negroe Ben in the Neck came here last night.

Tuesday, 19th. At home all day.

Doctr. Craik went away after Breakfast.

Killed 41 Hogs from the different Plantations — weights as follows

Ferry.....	19....	3034
Dogue run.....	6....	936
Muddy hole.....	6....	798
River Plan:.....	10....	<u>1466</u> 6234

¹ John Brown, of Providence, Rhode Island. A merchant and patriot of the first rank. He was leader of the party that burned the Gaspée in 1772; delegate to the Continental Congress in 1784, but did not take his seat; and a Member of the United States Congress, 1799-1801. He was one of the founders of Brown University.

Wednesday, 20th. Mr. Bushrod Washington and Wife, and Miss Blackburn went up to Alexandria after breakfast, as did Doctr. La Moyeur. George Washington went up there also on my business; after having measured the remaindr. of the Corn at the Ferry plantation on the Hill, which with 6 Barrels brought home, and four given to the Hogs amounted in that cut to 49 Barls.

On the Flat commn. plantg.	87
Drilled Corn by Meadow	29
Do. by Fish House	9
Total made this yr.	<u>174</u>

Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, Dogue run and Muddy hole. James Lawson the Ditcher, not at work to day nor has he been since Sunday.

Killed the following Hogs to day:

From Rivr. Plantn.....	12....	1876
Muddy hole.....	11....	<u>1366</u>
		3242
Killed Yesterday.....		<u>6234</u>
		9476
Supplied Ths. Green with		<u>300</u>
Remains....		9176

Thursday, 21st. Mr. Brown went away after Breakfast.

I rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole. Just finished securing the Corn at the Ferry which was measured yesterday; still gathering this at Dogue run and threshing at Muddy hole.

James Lawson (the Ditcher) returned to his work to day.

Bushrod Washington and his wife returned from Alexandria to day — got in before dinner. Mr. Potts came soon after dinner, and Mr. Richardson Stuart at Night.

Friday, 22d. Rid to the Neck, Muddy hole, Dogue run and Ferry Plantations. Getting Wheat into the Barn at

the first; threshing it at the 2d; about finishing gathering Corn at the 3d; and cutting down Corn Stalks for the Farm pen at the last.

Doctr. Craik, for whom I had sent to visit the sick people in the Neck, came across from there after Sun down.

Doctr. La Moyeur came in about the same time from Alexandria.

My Farmer ¹ brought home for the purpose of stall feeding 3 Steers from Dogue run, viz. the two old draught Steers wch. went from the House, and one that was on the Wheat field at Dogue run all last Winter and Spring — the latter to be slaughtered to morrow.

Doctr. Craik who visited my sick people in the Neck came here to night as did Doctr. La Moyeur.

Saturday, 23d. Doctr. Craik went away after breakfast. Mr. Bushrod Washington and his wife were prevented doing it by the Weather.

I remained at home all day. Finished gathering and husking of Corn at Dogue run, yesterday; but the weather to day prevented the measuring and lofting it.

Ordered the Overseer at the Ferry and my Negroe Overseers to kill; of the Hogs up fatting, each as follows: —

	weight
Ferry, Hezh. Fairfax.....	2.... 270
River Plantation.....	2.... 247
Dogue Run Ditto.....	2.... 256
Muddy hole, Do.....	2.... 143
Head Carpr, Isaac fm. do....	1.... 84
	<u>1009</u>

Sunday, 24th. At home all day. B. Washington and his Wife left this.

¹ Bloxham.

Monday, 25th. At home all day. Miss Allan, Betsy, Patcy and Nelly Custis came here to dinner.

Tuesday, 26th. Doctr. La Moyeur went to Alexandria to day, and Colo. Lee¹ (late of Congress) came here to Dinner, as did Mr. Lund Washington.

Wednesday, 27th. After Breakfast Colo. Lee set out for Richmond.

Mr. Lear returned from his journey into the Western Country about 4 Oclock to day, having been absent 28 days.

Miss Allan returned to Abingdon to day, and Doctr. La Moyeur came back from Alexandria.

At home all day.

Thursday, 28th. At home all day.

Friday, 29th. The hollidays being over, and the People all at work, I rid to the Ferry, Dogue run, and Muddy hole Plantations; also to the Ditchers (who were at work). At the first Plantation cutting stalks and getting farm pen in order; at the next (Dogue run) measured the remainder of the Corn.

	Barls.
viz.....	106
27th Novr. was measured.....	68
6 Decr. Do. Do.....	41½
Given to Hogs — 25 — Negs. 15;	40
At the Plantation — Total.....	255½

My whole Crop of Corn will stand

Neck Plantation.....	387½ Barls.
Dogue Run.....	255½
Muddy hole.....	201
Ferry.....	174
Total.....	1018

¹ Henry Lee.

Miss Peake and Miss Eaglin dined here to day and returned afterwards.

Saturday, 30th. Staked out the fields at the Ferry Plantation to day, according to the late Modification of them. Visited the Ditchers and rid to Dogue run, where the People had just finished securing the corn measured yesterday, and were going to grub a piece of ground for the Muddy hole plows to work on East of the Branch in Field No. 1. The Muddy hold hds. began to succour, or take the sprouts from the Stumps in the New ground to prepare it for Hoeing for Corn.

Killed the following Hogs:

Neck Plantn.....	25 Hogs.....	2861	
Dogue Run — Do.	5 Do.....	571	
Ferry.....	Do. 8.....	867	
From this quantity.....			4299
Thos. Bishop has had		400	
Thos. Green — 2d. parcel.....		200	
Richd. B. Walker.....		300	
Overseer.. Morris.....		45	
Ditto..... Davy.....		55	
Ditto..... Will.....		157	
Ditto..... Isaac.....		116	
			1273

In addn. to the former

Killed the 19th and 20th.....	9476
Ditto at the Plantns. for Oversrs.....	1009
Ditto for forward Bacon	
from Neck — Hogs.....	905
Mill — 3 Do.....	460
Total amt. 120 Hogs.....	1365
	16149

Delivered to Sundrie pr.

the foregoing acct	2282
For family consumpn	13867

Besides the above, there are 4 Hogs yet at the ferry Plantn. to kill, from which the overseer [receives] the Balle. due to him.

Sunday, 31st. At home all day.

1787

January 1—December 31

Original in the Library of Congress

This year is entered in four note-book volumes, beginning in No. 32 (in which is included January 1—March 30, *see* List, vol. 1, p. xvii) and ending in No. 35 (which also includes January 1—April 17, 1788).

1787

JANUARY

Monday, 1st. Went to the Plantation of Jno. Robinson ¹ to have his stock of Horses and Cattle appraised to me — Colo. McCarty on my part and Mr. Lund Washington on his — valued them, as follows:

A Black (or dark brown) Mare about 14 hands high, no white, but a long switch tail and supposed to be 9 years old; with a sorrel horse colt of last spring, a long narrow blaze, a little white on the upper lip and 2 white hind feet, 9£ os. *od.*

A Bla: Mare, no white except a few gray hairs on her nose, abt. 13½ hands high, 6 yrs. old; [and] A bla: horse colt, last Spring no white but a small snip on the nose, 6£ os. *od.*

A sorrel Mare blazed face off hind foot white abt. 14 hands high, 7 years old; A sorrel mare colt 1 year old, blaze in the face; A sorrel horse Colt of this spring, blaze in the face, white rd. the hoofs, both hers, 11£ 10s. *od.*

A sorrel Stallion, a blaze face, 2 hind feet and off fore foot white, 13½ hds. high and 6 years old, 5£ os. *od.*

A sorrel horse with a kd. of blaze and snip in one 2 hind feet white, thin and badly made, 13½ hds. high and 7 years old, — 4£ 10s. *od.*

A Dark bay horse (Stallion), one hind foot, near one white, 4 next spg., 13½ hands high, — 5£ 10s. *od.*

A sorrel two years old horse Colt, long star and white Nose, — 3£ os. *od.*

11 in all amounting to £44.10.

¹ John Robertson. (See entries October 16 and 18, 1786, *supra.*)

Cattle

1 Brindle Bull, 3 yrs. next Sprg.....	4. 0. 0.
1 Red,	
1 Brindle and pied Oxen.....	12. 0.
1 Brindle and White Steer unbroke..	4.
1 Bla. Cow, white Belly and red yearlg. Bull Calf.....	4
1 Bla. Cow and bla. Bull Calf.....	4
1 Brindle Cow and brind. B. Calf...	4
1 Red Cow and pied bull Calf.....	4
1 Brindle Cow with white belly and red calf with wh. belly.....	4
1 Brindle heifer with calf.....	2. 10.
15 head in all amg.....	<u>£42. 10</u>
11 horses as above.....	<u>44. 10</u>
Total....	<u>£87.</u>

For the payment of the Sum on the other side, viz. £87, I passed my Certificate payable to Mrs. French.

Besides the above, 20 Bushls. of Wheat sowed on the Plantation, and putting it in was valued by the aforementioned Gentlemen at 7/6 pr. Bushel; for [] Bushels I am to pay Thos. Pool.

It being wet when James Lawson was ditching, I ordered him to quit, and go to that part where he had left off the [] of Decr. last and to continue that ditch up to the road by the bridge.

Began to Plow in Field No. 1 at Dogue run to day, 4 plows for Barley, etca., and to prepare the fencing for field No. 4 at the same place.

Also begun with the Muddy hole people to Hoe the ground on the right of the road (going out) at the Home House for Corn.

Colo. McCarty and Mr. Lund Washington came home with me to dinner. Found the wife of the latter, and Colo. White¹ and a Mr. West, the two last of whom stayed all Night, the rest went away in the evening.

¹ Colonel Anthony Walton White, of the First Continental Dragoons. He was

Tuesday, 2d. Colo. Walton White and Mr. West went away before breakfast. I rid to the Ferry, French's and Dogue run Plantations. Set the Muddy hole Ploughs, 3, to work, to prepare a small piece of ground East of the Branch in field No. 1 for Barley and grass Seeds.

Wednesday, 3d. Rid to Alexandria to a meeting of the board of Directors of the Potomack Co. Did the business which occasioned the Meeting, dined at Lomax's and returned home in the evening.

Dug the 10 Rows of Carrots wch. I had sowed between the rows of drilled corn at Muddy hole Plantation, which turned out as follows, viz. the first and most Northerly row yielded 3 Bushls., and the next to this $2\frac{1}{2}$ Bushels. The other 8 were measured together and amounted to 14 Bushels — the tops, ends and fibres being first taken from the whole. It is to be noted that those Carrots came up exceedingly thin, whether owing to the Seeds being burried too deep, or to any other cause is not certain. They were even much thinner than the Potatoes in the same field. That the two rows first named were transplanted, the tip ends of the Roots being first taken off; which, or something else, occasioned them to fork, and branch improperly; that the first of these rows, i.e. the one which produced 3 bushels had no sprinkling of dung at the time of Planting. The second (yielding $2\frac{1}{2}$ bushels) had, and so alternately through the whole ten rows. The 8 rows not transplanted produced very fair Carrots, the medium size of which might be [] inches in length and in circumference about midway the length of them. The greater part of these Carrots too grew in more indifferent land apparently than the Potatoes did, tho part of the latter being low was drowned. Notwithstanding this I think there were more

captured in the Southern campaign, but exchanged in time to take part in the siege of Yorktown.

plants upon the whole of Potatoes than Carrots in the rows. Hence it appears that in the same kind of Land the latter yields more bushels to the acre than the former. For of Potatoes, 4 rows nearly of the same length of those with Carrots, produced only $6\frac{3}{4}$ Bush., and the best set one of the 4, two and a $\frac{1}{4}$ Bushels. The average of which is not quite a bushel and three pecks, whereas the average of the 10 rows of Carrots is nearly 2 Bushels. Which of these is most valuable by the Bushel in feeding, or for any farm uses must be determined by experience or the account of others. One great advantage seems to attend carrots, and that is, that they may remain without any detriment in the ground till this time; for those now spoken of appear to have received no damage during the last severe frost. How much longer they would have remained unhurt in the ground I cannot say.

Thursday, 4th. Rid to the Ferry, Dogue run and Muddy hole Plantations, and to the Ditchers. Also to French's. At the last 3 Men had begun to get rails. At the Ferry the People were grubbing and cleaning up the Swamp below the Meadow; and at Dogue run I set them to filling up gullies where the plows were at work.

Friday, 5th. A Mr. Smith, Boat builder, came here to build me a fishing Boat, for which I am to allow him 8/ a foot, and a pint of rum pr. day.

Rid to the Plantations, all. In the Neck began with 8 plows to plow the cut which had been in drilled corn, next the Barn, crossing the old furrows at this plowing.

Saturday, 6th. Brought [] Bullocks from the Mill Meadow to Stall feed.

At home all day.

Mrs. Stuart, Miss Allan, and the two youngest Children of the former came here just before dinner.

The Muddy hole Plows finished plowing the ground they were in at Dogue run, and began to plow No. 2 at home.

Purchased and had brought home from Alexandria, 10 Bushels of red Clover Seed, a bushel of which was weighed, 68½ lbs.

Sunday, 7th. At home.

Monday, 8th. Rid to all the Plantations. Finished cleaning and grubbing the New Meadow at the Ferry. Old Will and the Women at Fren[ch]'s were grubbing and clearing away for the Plows in the field (No. 1) on the Road. At Dogue run they were plowing and filling and filling gullies. In the Neck clearing the ground from Corn stalks before the Plows, and the Muddy hole people employed as usual in the New ground, front of the home house.

Tuesday, 9th. Two Millwrights who came to my Mill yesterday began to work to day on a new cog wheel to the grist Mill.

Kept within doors by the badness of the weather.

Took an Acct. of my grass seeds on hand — which are as follows;

10 Bushl. Clover @ 68½.....	685 lbs.	
Expected from Phil.....	<u>300</u>	.. 985
20 Bushels orchard Grass.		
16½ Ditto Timothy		
1 Ditto New River		
6 Quarts Pumpkin Seeds		
½ Bushl. Magity bay Pease		
½ Ditto Spg. Barley, Mr. Lee		
½ Ditto Wheat of the Cape of Good hope.		

N.B. The above Clover Seed at 10 lbs. to the Acre, will sow 98½ acs.; at 12 lbs, 82 Acres; at 14 lbs, []; and at 16 lbs., the largest quantity bestowed on an Acre, 61½ Acres.

The Orchard grass at a bush. to the Acre will sow 20 Acres.

The Timothy Seed at a quart to the Acre will sow 528 Acres; at 3 pints, 352 Acres; and at 2 Quarts to the Acre, 264 Acres.

At home all day.

Wednesday, 10th. Mrs. Stuart and her Children and Miss Allan went away after Breakfast.

Just before Dinner Mr. Brindley,¹ Manager of the Susquehanna works, and his Son in law came in on their way to South Carolina.

About the same time I recd. by express the acct. of the sudden death (by a fit of the Gout in the head) of my beloved Brother, Colo. Jno. Augé. Washington.

At home all day.

Thursday, 11th. Sent Mr. Lear to Alexandria to receive money and do other business for me.

Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's and Dogue run, and to the Ditchers. At the first the labourers had begun to grub and clean up the 18 acre field on the hill part of No. 1.

Friday, 12th. At home all day, writing letters, and doing other matters previous to Majr. Geo. Washington's² setting off for New Kent, for which place he set out after dinner, in order to receive and bring up some Negroes which his Wife's Father Colo. Bassett had given him.

Saturday, 13th. Rid to the Ferry, French's, and Dogue Run and Muddy hole Plantations; also to the Mill and the Ditchers — nothing remarkable at any of them.

About 8 oclock in the evening Doctr. Stuart on his return from the General Assembly at Richmond and Mr. Anstey came in.

¹ James Brindley and a Mr. Harris, his son-in-law.

² 'Jan. 12. By Majr. G. A. Washington to buy mourning for me £16. 16. 0.' (Ledger B.)

Sunday, 14th. Doctr. Stuart stayed and dined, as did Mr. Anstey, after which both went away; the 1st to his own home and the other to Alexandria.

At home all day.

Monday, 15th. Rid to all the Plantations and to the Ditchers. In the Neck set the best plowman (Nat) to marking field No. 3 into 5 feet rows for Corn, Potatoes, Pease, etca., and, finding the plowing in No. 2 wet and heavy, I directed the plows to list after Nat every alternate row, as soon as he had got sufficiently ahead, and in the meantime, while No. 2 (which was in Corn last year) remained so wet, to endeavour to plow the New field about to be taken in for Corn next year. Plowing and other work going on as usual at the other places.

Began to Maul Rails for French's and to fit up two plows for plowing there.

James Lawson just finished the Ditch through the woods from the Road to the fence where the Dutchman began and began below Manley's Ho. opposite, to work up till he meets the Dutchmen.

Ascertained how many of the following sorts of Seeds there are in a lb. Troy. The weight of a bushel of each, and how much an acre will take of each sort to sow it:

Sorts of Seeds	Numbr. of Grains		Propn of Chaff in ea.	Weight of a bush of ea. seed	Seeds for an Acre			
					at 4 Inchs. sqr.		at 12 Inchs. sqr.	
	in the lb.	in the Bush			lbs.	galls.	lbs.	galls.
Red Clover	71,000	4,863,500	1/30	68 1/2	5 4/8	0 5/8		
Timothy	298,000	13,410,000	1/13	45	1 2/8	0 2/8		
New Rivr. Grass	844,800	8,448,000	1/14	10	0 4/8	0 3/8		
Orchd. grass	387,000	4,459,700	1/6	11 1/2	1	0 7/8		
Eastn. Shore Pea	14,400	964,800	1/30	67			3	3/64
Bla: eye Pease	2,300	140,300	1/32	61			18 7/8	2 1/2
Crowder do.	1,600	97,600	1/34	61			27 2/8	3 4/8
Barley	8,925	455,685	1/37	51	44	7		

Tuesday, 16th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run and Muddy hole, also to the Ditchers. The same kind of work going on as usual at all of them.

On my return home found Mr. Porter and Mr. Ingraham ¹ here, who dined and stayed all night.

Wednesday, 17th. At home all day.

Just as we had dined Messrs. Richard and Theodk. Lee came in, and after Sundown Colo. Carrington from Congress, and Major Swan ² from Boston arrived, all of whom stayed the Night.

Thursday, 18th. All the Gentlemen (Messrs. Porter and Ingraham who had stayed two Nights with the others) went away after Breakfast.

I rid to all the Plantations. The plows began on Tuesday to break up the new field for corn in the Neck on Tuesday last; worked there yesterday and would do so today also; after which, as the ground they had left, appeared to be a good deal dried by yesterdays Wind I directed them to return to it to morrow. Finished except two lands which were untouched, plowing the Lay land at Dogue run, and began to list the field (alternate rows) intended for Corn at that place, and began plowing with 2 plows at French's for Oats and Barley. Set another (makg. 3 plows) to work at the Ferry Plantation today. The Muddy hole people went from the New ground in front of the Ho. Ho. to the Plantation to work, to grub and clear the stumps and bushes before the Plows at that place.

Friday, 19th. Went to French's and marked of the field (as they are to be divided in future) by stakes.

Saturday, 20th. Rid to the Ferry, French's, Dogue run,

¹ The firm of Porter & Ingraham, of Alexandria.

² Major James Swan.

and Muddy hole plantations, as also to the Ditchers and to the Mill — employed as yesterday at all of them.

Mr. Lund Washington dined here.

Sunday, 21st. Major Swan (of Boston) and Mr. Hunter of Alexandria came here to dinner and stayed all night.

Monday, 22d. Major Swan and Mr. Hunter set off for Fredericksburgh before Breakfast.

At home all day.

Tuesday, 23d. At home alone all day.

Wednesday, 24th. At home all day.

Thursday, 25th. Rid to the Ditchers and Mill, and to the Ferry, French's, Dogue run, and Muddy hole Plantations. At work as usual at the Ferry and French's. At Dogue run, repairing and altering the Meadow fence and filling up gullies before the Plows. The Muddy hole Hoe People had returned to the New ground in front of the house and were breaking it up as heretofore. They came to this work on Monday Morning.

On my return home found Mr. Madison here, and after Dinner Mr. Griffith¹ came in — both of whom stayed all night.

Friday, 26th. Mr. Madison and Mr. Griffith going away after breakfast, (the former to attend Congress), I rid as yesterday to all the Plantns.

The Ditchers abt. Noon this day finished the level ditch as far as was intended on both sides the Swamp at French's Plantation, and then began to dig a 4 feet ditch at top, and a foot (intending it for a dble. ditch) deep, on the dividing

¹ The Reverend David Griffith, of Fairfax.

line between this and the Ferry Plantation immediately after.

Saturday, 27th. Rid to all the Plantations and to the Ditchers, whom I found had made a mistake and instead of working on the line dividing the Plantations were on one which divides the fields 2 and 3. Shifted them to the right place about 1 o'clock.

Sunday, 28th. Colo. Henry Lee, his Lady, Miss Lee and Mr. Fendall came here to dinner, the last of whom went away afterwards (crossing the river for Maryland.)

Monday, 29th. Rid in the Morning before breakfast to Muddy hole Plantation in order to set the Ditcher (Danl. Overdonck) to work; but the ground was so hard froze and the Weather setting in so stormy he could not proceed and returned.

Tuesday, 30th. Rid to the Ferry, and French's Plantation, and intended to have gone further, but getting wet in passing a Miry place at French's, I returned home to get on dry cloaths.

Sent Danl. Overdonck to Muddy hole again who, with a fellow Charles belonging to the place, began a ditch 3 feet wide at top, one at bottom, and [] Inches deep.

Set the Plows to work again at French's where the women and boys had begun to fence.

Wednesday, 31st. Accompanied by Colo. Lee I rode to the Ferry, French's, Dogue run and Muddy hole Plantations, and also to my Mill and the Ditches. At Dogue run the Women were altering the Meadow fences, and at Muddy hole, finding the Ditch too small, I ordered it to be made 4 feet wide. Being in a Sandy soil the ditching here

was perfectly dry, but where James Lawson and Boston were ditching at French's in Clayey ground it was very wet and disagreeable.

Mr. Fendall returned from Maryld. to dinner.

FEBRUARY

Thursday, 1st. Mr. Fendall, Colo. Lee and his Lady, and Miss Lee went away after breakfast.

I rid to the Ferry and French's Plantations. At the first the Women were cleaning up field No. 1 below the Hill.

Friday, 2d. Majr. G. Washington and Mr. Jno. Dandridge came here to dinner yesterday. Rid to all the Plantations today, and to the Ditchers. At the River Plantn. began to sow 3 pints of Timothy seed (mixed in a bushel of Ashes) to the Acre on Tuesday last, on the Snow; but it melted so fast that not more than 2 acres were sown before the ground getting uncovered put a stop to the Sowing. Began at the same place to plow the Homestead for Barley or Oats, or both, as Seeds could be obtained. A horse failing at French's yesterday, one of the plows was stopped about 12 O'clock.

Yesterday Morning the Dogue run Men (3 of them) began to get rails to fence in the Largest piece of Tobo. ground at French's for Corn.

The Mill wright finished the repairs at my Mill last Night.

Saturday, 3d. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue run and Muddy hole; also to the Mill and to the Ditchers.

Sunday, 4th. At home all day. About two O'clock Doctr. Stuart came in.

Monday, 5th. After breakfast Doctr. La Moyeur went up to Alexandria, and Doctr. Stuart and Mr. Jno. Dandridge to Abingdon.

I rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue run, and Muddy hole. At the Ferry the Overseer had begun to sow Timothy seed mixed with Sand in the Rye field on the Snow, but the Sand being too wet and clammy to do it regular I ordered him to desist till the Sand could be dried. Three gallons of Timothy seed mixed with ashes was sown on Rye in the Neck on Saturday, adjoining what was sown there on the last Snow. Heaping the dung in the Farm pens at Muddy hole.

Tuesday, 6th. Mr. Willm. Craik who came here to dinner yesterday went away after breakfast. I rid to all the Plantations and to Simpson's with my Nephew G. A. Washington, to advise him (as he was going to settle a plantation there) abt. his fencing. Sowed [] gallons of Timothy Seed mixed in Ashes on the Rye in the Neck. Began to put up a New fence through the Wood at the Ferry plantation to day. The Dogue Run people putting up the Rails that were mauled by them around French's Tobacco grd. French's People also fencing, and getting New rails.

About Sundown Messrs. Bushrod and Corbin Washington came in on their return from Berkeley County.

Wednesday, 7th. Continued at home.

Thursday, 8th. At home all day.

Friday, 9th. Mr. Bushrod Washington and his Brother Corbin went away after breakfast and Geo. Washington went up to Alexandria. Doctr. LaMoyeur left this, but meeting with some accident to his Chaise returned again.

I rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue run, and Muddy hole, and to the Mill and Ditchers. At the first the People were cutting down Corn stalks, at the latter heaping the dung of the Farm yards, and at the other two, fencing.

In the evening Doctr. Craik returned with Majr. Washington.

Saturday, 10th. After breakfast Doctr. La Moyeur again set out and soon after Doctor Craik went away.

I went into the Neck to run the outer lines of my land there bounded by Mr. Mason and Mr. Alexander, and to ascertain lines for the fences of the Plantation let Major Geo. Washington.

Meeting with Mr. Edws. Williams I bought his lease for 20 pds. and some other priviledges wch. I agreed to allow him.

Monday, 12th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue run and Muddy hole. Plowing at the Ferry in the New Meadw. and at French's in field No. [] intended for Turnips, Potatoes, etca. Field No. 5 in which they had been plowing for Oats and Barley being too wet, three Plows from Muddy hole went to work at this place about noon. Neither the Dogue run, nor Neck Plows were at work to day.

Mr. Lear went to an Assembly at Alexandria to be held this evening, and Mr. John Dandridge came from Abingdon here to Dinner.

Tuesday, 13th. Rid to all the Plantations. Plows at Work — those of Muddy hole at work at French's.

Ferry people came to work in the New ground of the Mansion house on Friday the 9th.

Wednesday, 14th. Rid immediately after breakfast to

French's Plantation to see a sick man, and intended to have gone to others, but was driven back by the rain.

Thursday, 15th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue run and Muddy hole; also to the Mill and ditchers. Plowing at all except Muddy hole, the plows of that being Fr[enc]h's, where No. 5 being too wet they were plowing in No. 2. At the other two places, plowing the ground intended for meadow.

Friday, 16th. Mr. Dandridge went away after an early breakfast, and G. A. Washington set out for Berkeley.

I rid to all the Plantations. Plowing at all except at Muddy hole, the plows of wch. [were] at French's. In the Neck the Men employed in getting Posts for Railing. The Plows at that place had just got into the Orchard. The women heaping dung.

Bath (a Negro Man from the Neck) joined the Dutchman, Danl. Overdonck, in ditching, yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lund Washington dined here to day.

Saturday, 17th. Went into the Neck to mark some lines for fences. Finished this Evening plowing the orchard for Barley.

Received, before I had done, a Message acquainting me that Colo. Wadsworth ¹ and a Mr. Chaloner ² were here, which brought me home.

Sunday, 18th. After dinner Colo. Wadsworth and Mr. Chaloner returned to Alexandria.

Monday, 19th. Rid to all the Plantations. In the Neck

¹ Colonel Jeremiah Wadsworth, of Connecticut, had been Deputy Commissary-General of Purchases during the Revolution.

² John Chaloner, of Pennsylvania, had been Assistant Commissary of Purchases during the Revolution.

heaping dung with the Women ar[oun]d the Barn. Began after the Fog dispelled to plow for Oats in the Eastern most cut of drilled Corn (Timber landing field), intending to sow and harrow close at the heel's of the Ploughs. At the other Plantations (Muddy hole plows at French's) Plowing as before. The Muddy hole People finished hoeing thr. side of the New ground in front of the house.

Tuesday, 20th. Went with Mrs. Washington to Mr. Fendall's to make a visit to Colo. and Mrs. Lee. Dined and returned home in the Evening. Found Doctr. Craik there.

Wednesday, 21st. Doctr. Craik went away before breakfast. After wch. I rode to Muddy hole and Neck Plantations. Began to Sow Oats at the latter in the ground which the Plows went into on Monday abt. Noon, and finished yesterdy. about dinner time. They were not more than half (at the East end) harrowed; in the way the plow went yesterday and this forenoon it was too hard to do it; ordered it to be done this afternoon, tho' the ground has not thawed much. Part of the ground about the place where the water had been drained from broke up in large flakes—whether because wet, or because the frost was in it when plowed yesterday, I know not; but does not appear as if it would be made fine by harrowing and cross harrowing. The ground adjoining this (intended for Barley) which they were plowing to day, broke up in large flakes, owing to the frost not being sufficiently out of it. Quaere, will these large lumps or flakes crumble and fall to pieces by the sun and rain when the frost is out?

Thursday, 22d. Rid to Muddy hole, Dogue run and French's Plantation. At the first, about a fence on the New ditch which was begun yesterday At the second, the Plows having done all they could in the newly inclosed

Meadows for the Washes and wet places, went over into the Mill Meadow and had begun to plow the Island, where the hay stacks are (containing by stepping abt. $4\frac{1}{4}$ Acres,) which would be done today, when they wd. get into the piece above East side the Mill Race which was in Wheat last year, and which by stepping contains about $5\frac{3}{4}$ Acres. At the last, i.e. French's Plantation, the plows having finished plowing the cut along the Road were beginning to plow the Corn ground next adjoining between that and Manley's old Houses, but finding it too wet to sow immediately with oats, and that by lying (as one plowing only was intended) it might get hard again before it was dry enough to sow, I directed the Plows to continue there no longer than this day, and tomorrow to go into No. 1 and plow that part of it which was intended for Barley, and which would receive before it was seeded two plowings. Staked off a ditch along the ferry road.

On my return home found Mr. Bryan Fairfax, his wife and daughter here.

Friday, 23d. At home all day.

In the Evening Mr. Griffith came in and stayed all Night.

Saturday, 24th. After breakfast Mr. Fairfax, his wife and daughter, and Mr. Griffith went away.

I rode to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue run, and Muddy hole. Plowing at French's and Dogue run. Finished the Ditch at Muddy hole which divides fields No. 2 and 3. Would this afternoon finish plowing the other piece about $5\frac{3}{4}$ Acres of Wheat stubble on the East of the Mill race for Barley. This would have been done yesterday but there was no plowing any where.

Looked at the Dogue run Wheat that which was sowed on lay land. Seemed to be well set in the ground; the roots

but little turned out with the frost. The early sown Wheat in the Corn ground also looked tolerably well; but in places the roots were turned out of the ground; and in spots was injured by Water lying, or remaining on them too long. The latter sown Wheat cut but a very indifferent appearance, little being to be seen, and that which was, seemed (the root) to be entirely thrown out, except on the highest parts of the ridges; what alteration, or whether any for the better will take place must be determined hereafter.

Monday, 26th. Rid to all the Plantations, to the Mill, and to the ditchers. In the Neck, the ground which had been sowed the 21st instt. with Oats, and which (though I sent 15 bushels of seed for it) was sown with 12 (on about 8 Acres, was this day cross harrowed with the light harrows — the part I mean which was not cross harrowed on Thursday last — and sowed with [] quarts of Timothy seed previous to the last harrowing. Finished at the same place plowing in the middle cut adjoining the Wheat, and went about 11 O'clock into field No. 9 to breaking up. The other People grubbing, cutting, and filling up Gullies in the same field. At Muddy (except the Plows, which were at French's) the People were making the New fence. At Dogue run the Plows began to Plow in the No. end of the field west of the Mill race for Oats, all the other hands filling gullies before them, the 2 Men who were Mauling. At French's the Plows, etca. were employed as on Saturday. At the Ferry, Caesar was beginning to lay out the list for Corn. The other two were plowing in the ground intended for the New Meadow. The Women were fencing.

Began to Ditch along the Ferry road from where the New fence East of the Plantation comes to it towards the Mill — the Dutchman, Charles Bath and Cupid employed abt. it.

G. A. Washington returned this Evening from Berkeley.

Tuesday, 27th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue run, and Muddy hole. Set the Plows at the first to crossing the Winter fallow, in order to sow Oats. The Plows and hands at the other Plantations, all working as yesterday.

Wednesday, 28th. Rid to all the Plantations. In the Neck began to cross the Plowing in the homestead (orchard inclosure) in order to sow oats; but the grd. in places having been tolerably well turfed and stiff, and not having had time since the plowing thereof for the grass to Rot, the last furrows were only cut in two, and remained exceedingly rough. Finding this would not answer I ordered the Plows to discontinue crossing, and a heavy harrow to go over the ground the way the Ploughs run, to see if that, and harrowing after the seed was sown, and cross harrowing, would be sufficient for the Oats. Began to cross the So. Et. quarter of the plowing at the ferry, to prepare it for Oats; intending to sow the N. Et. quarter without crossing. At French's, finished plowing all the ground between the Wheat and the Creek about 10 Oclock; and got into that pt. which was in Wheat last year immediately afterwards. At the Ferry spread some dung which had been carted out in the plowed ground which would be within the New Meadow No. Wt. Corner of it.

On my return home, found young Doctr. Craik and his two sisters, Marianne and Nancy, here. The first returned after dinner, the girls remained.

MARCH

Thursday, first. Rid to all the Plantations. The operation of harrowing which was begun yesterday in the Neck was going on; but as it did not appear to me that it would prepare the ground sufficiently for Oats I desired my

farmer to go over and give me his sentiments thereon. Had the Posts which were morticed at this place counted, of which there were 184 of the long kind, and 116 of the short. The New fence at Muddy hole being at a st[an]d for want of rails, the old fence round field No. 2 was righted up to keep creatures out of it, and the women went to Threshing Rye in the Barn. Began to sow Oats at Dogue run where the plows had been preparing the ground. The parts that were wet and heavy I ordered to be harrowed before sowing and to receive the same workings after it, as the other part should. Began to sow oats at the Ferry on that part of the field which had been cross plowed, harrowed after sowing.

Began to spread Ashes on the poorest part of the Lawn, in front of the House. The first levelled, and sown part of it was the part on which it was laid.

Ordered Robin from Dogue run and Paschal from French's to join James Lawson in the work of Ditching to morrow.

Observed the difference between plowing with a broad furrow and narrow one, and the propriety of a narrow one where one only is to be given, as now in the case of oats. My Farmer in field No. 1 at French's East side of it began with the narrow furrow, and the ground seemed filling again for the Oats as that which had been before plowed with a broad furrow. Where the Land is to be a second and a third time plowed broad furrows answer better because it rides over more gr[oun]d.

Saturday, 2d. Rid into the Neck with my Compass to ascertain, if practicable, the outer boundary of my land (had of Clifton). Could not do it effectually, but was inclined to think that the place fixed on below Simpson's house was nearly right and I run a straight line accordingly; and fixed Stakes for my fencing thereon, as also

between Colo. Mason and myself, leaving 20 odd feet for a road.

Began to sow Oats in the Neck today of the kind had from Mr. Young as the first sowed there also was.

Ordered yesterday every thing to be turned of the Wheat at all the Plantations. Those in the Neck to be put upon the Rye and those at Dogue run to be turned into the great Meadow.

Saturday, 3d. The Revd. Mr. Weems,¹ and y[oun]g Doctr. Craik who came here yesterday in the afternoon left this about Noon for Port Tobo. Doctr. Stuart came here in the evening.

Sunday, 4th. Mr. William Fitzhugh (Son to the Colo.) came here before dinner.

Monday, 5th. Doctr. Stuart and Mr. Fitzhugh went away after breakfast.

I rid to the Ferry, French's, Dogue run, and Muddy hole Plantations. Began at French's to sow Oats, and to harrow them in, and at Dogue run to cut and Maul rails with the two Jacks for the string of fencing through the Woods to inclose the Meadows.

The Rain which fell on friday Night and the forenoon of Saturday was more considerable than I had conceived by the wetness of the ground and other appearances.

The Ferry plows had disisted from putting in Oats, but I ordered them to go at it this afternoon again.

James Lawson with his Party, consisting of Boatswain, Paschal, and Robin, just began on friday evening to ditch

¹ The Reverend Mason Locke Weems, at one time minister of Pohick Church. His *Life of Washington* (one of the earliest) is responsible for the cherry-tree story and other unsubstantiated extravagances. The *Life* was first published in 1800, and has gone through numerous editions.

fm. the Plank bridge towards the other Party, but the Rain on Saturday prevented a full commencement of the work till this Morning, when in the two parties 8 ditchers were at work.

Tuesday, 6th. Rid to all the Plantations; no appearance of the first sowed Oats coming up in the Neck — Women there, putting up a fence by William's house. At all the other places working as yesterday.

On my return here found Colo. Ball here, and soon after dinner Mr. G. W. Lewis, Son to Mr. Fielding Lewis of Frederick came in.

Wednesday, 7th. Mr. G. W. Lewis went away after breakfast. Colo. Ball rid with me to the plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue run, and Muddy hole. Sowing Oats at the 3 first, as also grass seeds. At the Ferry and Dogue run of no other kind than Timothy — 3 pints, mixed with a bushel of Sand to the Acre. At the other (French's) sowing Clover, Orchard. Grass and Timothy, mixed in the following proportions: 5 pints of Clover, one Gallon Orchard. grass, and 1 quart of Timothy seeds, which is the allowance for an acre. More would be given of the Orchard. Grass, but I had it not to afford. Plowed the last yrs. Wheat Stubble in field No. 1, and began abt. breakfast time to Plow the Corn in the back part of the field — West of the Wheat which was sown by Robinson. Began to thresh the Clover seed at Muddy hole yesterday — very tedious.

Thursday, 8th. Colo. Ball went away immediately after breakfast.

I rid to all the Plantations. In the Neck, removed from the Homestead, or orchard Inclosure, where Oats were sowing, to the Middle cut of drilled Corn (plowed for the

purpose), and began to sow Poland Oats with orchard and Timothy grass Seeds — a gallon of the first, and a quart of the latter to the Acre. Finished sowing the Corn grd. at French's below the Tobo. grd. in which the house stands; both with Oats and grass seeds. Of the first it took 20 bushels of the sort had from Mr. Young — of the latter abt. [] lbs. of Clover, [] gallons of Orchd. grass, and [] quarts of Timothy seed.

No appearance of the 1st sowed Oats in the Neck coming up.

Finished the Ditch along the Ferry road, East of Muddy hole branch, and began on the West side — Danl Overdonck and the 3 with him at the Plank bridge, and James Lawson with his 3 at the Forks of the Road, each party working towards each other. This was begun late in the afternoon of yesterday.

My Corn house, with Robinson's Corn in it, at French's was burned down in the Night; either by carelessness or design. The latter seems most likely, but whom to suspect was not known.

Friday, 9th. At home all day.

Saturday, 10th. Rid to all the Plantations. Found that much rain had fallen and that the Sowing of Oats was stopped at every place on acct. of the Wetness of the ground, but that the Plows at Dogue run were at work in that intended for them. In the Neck they were breaking up No. 9 for Corn. At the Ferry they were listing the Stoney field part of No. 1 for Do., and at French's were breaking up No. 2 for Turnips, Pease, etca. At Muddy hole the Overseer and Women were threshing and getting out the clover seed.

No Appearance of the first sowed Oats in the Neck coming up.

Sunday, 11th. Doctr. Craik came here to dinner to day. Mrs. Jenifer came here to dinner yesterday.

Monday, 12th. Rid to all the Plantations Plowing, and sowing Oats and grass Seeds at all, except at Muddy hole. Threshing clover seed there.

No appearance of the first sowed oats rising yet.

Majr. Washington went up to town on my business.

Tuesday, 13th. The Southerly Storm of last Night was very violent, blowing down some of my fencing and the tops of my Hay and Wheat Stacks. Much rain also fell by which the ground was made very wet and the runs filled with Water. Till about 8 Oclock this morning it continued to rain fast, after which it cleared with a fresh Southerly Wind which continued till afternoon, when it shifted to the No. West and blew hard.

Rid to the Ferry, French's, and Dogue run Plantations — No sowing at any, Plows picking the driest spots to Plow in. At the Ferry they were listing for Corn in stoney field and at French's breaking up field No. 2.

Wednesday, 14th. Rid to all the Plantations, began to sow Oats as usual. The first sowed ones in the Neck were beginning to come up. At that place Nat finished on Monday last laying off field No. 3 for Corn. At Dogue run finished filling gullies and grubbing before the Plows in the long field West of the Mill race.

Thursday, 15th. Went out with my Compass in order to mark the ground at Muddy hole intended for experiments, into half Acre lotts, and two other pieces adjoining; all in field No. 2, into 10 Acre lotts. Also to mark the lines which divide field No. 1 from No. 2 and 3, and the fields 6 and 7 at Dogue run.

Plowing and sowing as usual. In the Neck, the Middle cut in field No. 2 wd. be finished sowing this evening, with 24 bushels of the Poland Oats; and 12 quarts of Timothy Seed — q[uantit]y about 17 acres.

The Ditchers finished the ditch along the Ferry road this afternoon.

Friday, 16th. Rid to all the Plantations; to the Mill and to the Ditchers. The last began to ditch on both sides the New Meadow at the ferry. Plowing and sowing as usual at all the other places.

Mrs. Jenifer and the two Miss Craiks went away yesterday, and Mr. Porter who came here last Night left it before breakfast this Morning.

Mr. Griffith came in the evening and stayed all Night.

Saturday, 17th. Mr. Griffith went away after breakfast.

I rid to Muddy hole, Dogue run, French's, and Ferry Plantations. At French's the Plows began yesterday afternoon to plow in that cut of field No. 5 by Manley's houses. At the Ferry, in ground which had been sown with Oats on Wednesday last, I measured, by stepping, on the line formerly dividing this plantation from French's two acs., on the most Southerly of wch. I had sowed two bushels, and on the next, one bushel of Oats, in addition to what was in the ground before: and wch. was, as near as could be estimated, two bushels to each acre. These two, with the grd. on each side, were as nearly of an equallity as possibly could be in every respect; and perfectly level. It was done as an experiment to try what quantity of Seed was best for an Acre. The one and two bushels added, would give 3 on one acre and 4 on the other. On the right and left of these the grd. would have only two Bushls. thereabouts to the acre. These two acres, on acct. of harrowing in the additional Oats, will have had one harrowing more

than the other. In all other respects the management, as well as the soil, was precisely the same and will be a fair trial. The same experiment was this day made also in the Neck, in field No. 2; which had been sown and harrowed on Thursday last, with abt. a bushel and half of Oats to the acre — the addition making $3\frac{1}{2}$ and $2\frac{1}{2}$ to the Acre. This ground likewise lyes perfectly level, and as near as possible of a quality. The acre which has $3\frac{1}{2}$ bushls. is the most westerly of the two. These will also have had by means of the additional quantity of Seed, an additional harrowing. These two acres as well as those at the ferry are marked off by stakes, in order that they may be cut and threshed separately at harvest.

Sunday, 18th. A Mr. Black from New York, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Porter, Mr. Mosshier,[†] Mr. Murray, and Mr. Claran of Alexandria dined here and returned in the Evening.

Monday, 19th. Rid to the Ferry, French's, Dogue run and Muddy hole Plantations; and to the Ditchers. Plowing and Sowing Oats as usual at the 3 first, and at all of them the first sowed Oats were coming up. The ground is in gd. order for plowing; but in some places where it had been plowed for some time it had become too closely settled by the rains wch. had fallen since, for the harrow to do as good work as were to be wished.

The early Wheat is beginning to spring fast, and looks as well as can be expected from the ground. The lay land Wheat, both at Dogue run and Muddy hole, looks promising, and stands sufficiently thick on the ground. The latter sowed Wheat at Dogue run begins to show something better but is this, and very backward, as the Rye at this place also is.

[†] Mosher, or Munshur (?).

Set the Ditchers this Morning to continue the Ditch wch. runs through the New Meadow at the Ferry into Muddy hole branch and to cleanse the old Ditch in the said New Meadow.

Tuesday, 20th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's and Dogue run. Had the hands from the latter and Muddy hole brot. to French's to put up the fence along the Road, that that by Gray's house might be removed out of the way of the plows.

Mr. Martin Cockburn for the purpose of taking the list of taxable property; and Mr. Potts and Mr. Roger West for the purpose of taking the privy examination of Fanny Washington came here, dined, and returned in the afternoon.

Wednesday, 21st. Calm all day with Clouds and Sunshine alternately through the whole of it. When the Sun was out, it was very warm. Vegetation advancing very quick. The grass had come on surprisingly, and the blossoms of the early fruit were putting forth as were the leaves of the early trees, and the buds of all.

Rid to all the Plantations. In the Neck the Oats in the Homestead or Orchard Inclosure would be all in by noon, except just the orchard part of it — that is the part on which the Trees grow. And the Plows finished breaking field No. 9, except the small Neck next the Wood, which they entered upon about breakfast time. At Dogue run the plows by dinner time would have finished breaking up the field West of the Mill race, except two or 3 wet spots, wch. together would not amount to an acre. At French's the field No. 1 would be finished this evening, except abt. 5 acres designed for Barley, which had been plowed, and a small slipe adjoining the Wheat, which by mistake the plowing was omitted. This, the Barley ground, and the

ground in Wheat, may together make about 15 acres, wch. will leave about 40 acres that are sowed in Oats.

The Oats every where, according to the time they were sowed are coming up very well, and to appearance sufficiently thick.

In the field No. 1 at French's, which, according to the above estimation contains 40 acres in Oats, 87 Bushels of them were sowed therein, and the following grass, mixed together, viz. — 26 gallons and 1 Quart of Red clover seed (of that had from Alexandria), 42 gallns. of Orchard grass Seeds, and $9\frac{1}{2}$ gallons of Timothy seed.

Directed the Toll ($\frac{1}{8}$ th) to be taken from 10 Bushels of Corn and the residue to be ground at my Mill, and the quantity of Meal it yielded to be reported to me, wch. is as follows, viz.

11 Bushl. 1 peck of unbolted Meal; and

10 Bushls. 1 peck and 4 quarts when the husks were bolted from the Meal. So that there will be more Meal when bolted in Measure than there is of the Corn before the Toll is taken from it. And it appeared by another trial that a peck of unbolted meal midlingly heaped will yield more than a peck of meal when bolted or sifted.

Thursday, 22d. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, and Dogue run. Began to sow Oats in Field No. 5 at French's, in the West cut East side thereof with the Oats from George Town (the common kind). At Dogue run the Plows would finish breaking up field No. 1 as follows: The land, next the lay wht. quite across the field from the Meadow fence to the Swamp being untouched either in the fall or Winter, and which was now coming up very thick with the White clover principally, was turned for the first time. The land next to this was untouched having been flush plowed in the fall. The 3d land was in grass the same as the first and plowed in like manner. The

4th land had been plowed in the fall in half furrows, by my farmer's directions. That is, a furrow was turned upon an equal breadth of unbroke ground quite through the land and was then, that is the unbroke part, split and turned with the plow.

My ditchers having cleaned the ditch in the middle of the New Meadow returned to the side ditches again.

Friday, 23d. Rid to all the Plantations. Finished about 9 O'clock breaking up all the ground in field No. 9 in the Neck. The Muddy hole force all at French's putting up the fence along the road, as all the Dogue run hands were, except the plowers — One of which was cross plowing a piece of ground (abt. an acre) in the Meadow, to receive 3 bushels of Oats sent me by Genl. Spotswood; two were breaking up as much of the ground between the two Meadows (which they had been obliged to leave on acct. of the wet) as they now could do for water; and the 4th was harrowing in oats. At French's the wind had blown down the fence between Fields No. 1 and 4. From this place Gray moved this day. At the Ferry all the Oats would be sowed this day in field No. 2. The quantity $55\frac{1}{2}$ Bushels whereof $45\frac{1}{2}$ bush. were of the Poland sort and 10 bushls. of those from Mr. Young's. The cross harrowing of these could not be given to day, as the Wind blew too hard to sow the grass seeds, which preceeded the 2d. harrowing.

Saturday, 24th. Rid to the Ferry, French's, and Dogue-run Plantations, the Plows at the first listg. of Field No. 3 below the hill. Attempted with the harrow to level and smooth the grd. intended for a New Meadow at this place. Righted all the Fencing at French's which had been blown down with the Wind, compleated the New Fence on the ditch by the road up to the plank bridge, and as the ground could not be harrowed there, nor the unbroke ground

plowed, the plows went to crossing that which had been plowed some time ago in the east cut of the same field No. 5 West part. The Harrow being also stopped at Dogue run all the plows united and finished breaking up the grd. between the two Meadws. adjoining the overseer's Ho. except the lowest part thereof where the Water drains.

A Captn. Rice came here in the evening with Mr. Lear, who went up to Alexandria to day.

Sunday, 25th. Mr. Snow¹ from Alexandria came down and dined and returned in the Afternoon with Captn. Rice. Immediately after which a Mr. Martins,² an English Gentleman came in, and a few minutes afterwards Mr. Arthur Lee, both of whom stayed all Night.

Monday, 26th. At home all day, the English Gentleman went away after breakfast, and Mr. Lee after.

Finished Sowing Oats in the Neck on Saturday last, in the Homestead, or Orchard Inclosure; which took 57 bushels; whereof 15 bushels of the first sown were of those from Mr. Young's, the others from the Eastern shore which had been culled from the wild garlick. Had the harrows brot. from hence, the light double ones were carried to French's and the heavy one to Dogue run. Plowed the last year's Turnip patch up at this place for Barley (about 5 acres) on Saturday last, and began to lay off field No. 9 for Corn.

At Dogue-run about an acre was sown in my Meadow, part of which had been cowpened, and part had had dung carried on it, with 3 Bushels of Oats sent me by General Spotswood, and after harrowing these in, with abt. half a

¹ Gideon Snow, formerly a tutor to the Custis children.

² This was Denny Martin, who later assumed the name Fairfax by Act of Parliament, on asserting his claim to a share of the Northern Neck proprietary under the will of his uncle, the sixth Lord Fairfax. He was a brother of Thomas Bryan Martin, who appears earlier in the diaries.

bushel of New River grass Seeds. The ground in which these Oats were sown, had been plowed, cross-plowed, and twice harrowed before sowing, and twice harrowed afterwards; once for the Oats, and once for the Seed.

Removed the Ditchers into field No. 5 at French's to ditch for a fence. The Plows at this place were also removed into the Weed cut in the same field from whence they were taken when the ground was frozen; but finding after trying some time that the ground had got very hard by the late drying and baking winds, I shifted them back and continued cross plowing.

Tuesday, 27th. Rid to the Ferry, French's, Dogue run and Muddy hole Plantations. At the first began yesterday, and would finish to day, harrowing Timothy Seed on the Rye which had been omitted in the Fall, and on the Snow during winter. Ordered a part of it to be cross harrowed in order to raise more loose earth, for the covering of it. Began at this place also to Hoe, Harrow, and other ways to prepare the New Meadow for the Sowing of Oats and grass Seeds in it. Sowing Oats and fencing at French's and threshing Clover Seed at Muddy hole.

Doctr. Stuart, Mrs. Stuart, and the two girls went home after dinner.

Had a descriptive list taken of all my Horses and Cattle in the Neck to day.

Wednesday, 28th. Rid into the Neck and was [prevented] from going to the other places by the Rain. The cold winds and frost last Week had turned the oats yellow, and in some places had bitten the blades. Rid over my Wheat at this place and found it more indifferent than I expected. Indeed scarce any on the ground especially in the cut on the River; and the whole so weedy that I do not expect it will be worth reaping. Examined the clover also at this

place, in field No. [] and found this likewise very thin and indifferent, except at the point where it had been sown with flax. Whether the goodness of this was owing to the ground being stronger, better prepared, or by being sown with the flax, I know not; but the difference was very apparent. The clover was also much better where the Mud had been spread last spring, than it was any where else except at the point; and the white clover was coming up very thick in it. In the other parts of the field the Clover was not only very thin but looked weak and sickly. Began to set the posts and rails for a ditch on the line between Mr. Mason and myself in the Neck, and began to list, or rather to renew the listing, in field No. 3 at this place.

Thursday, 29th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's Dogue run, and Muddy hole. At the first, finding the harrow to make tolerable good work in the New Meadow I directed it to continue on, till the ground, with the assistance of the hoes in the places which had been unbroke, were the wettest and most grassy, should be properly prepared for sowing the Oats, and grass Seeds. The Ditchers would have finished the side ditches to this Meadow to day, and were ordered to open a ditch between the fields No. 2 and 3 at French's. The rain having put the ground about Manley's old Houses in better order for plowing, the Plows, after the rain let up, proceeded to finish this part of field No. 5. At Dogue run the Sowing of oats, etca., going on as usual. At Muddy hole the clover seed was all threshed out, but not cleaned. Ordered 50 bushels of dung to be carried upon the half of the half acre squares of No. 2 and 4 (counting from the ditch fence) and on that part adjoining the Wheat, in order to sow Oats thereon.

Friday, 30th. Rid to Muddy hole, Dogue run, French's,

and the Ferry. The dung ordered to be spread yesterday at the first, having been laid on the cross plowing of the ground was set about. The Square No. 2, the South half of it, was very sandy, and did not require a 2d plowing; but that all might have equal culture, this and the other half, as well as the square No. 4, was plowed; this last was much stiffer than No. 2, and the North end a good deal stiffer than the South half of it. Cutting down Corn Stalks at Dogue run with the Women. Finished about Noon Plowing that part of field No. 5 at French's round Manley's old houses, and went to cross plowing again in the other part of the same field from whence they had shifted. Preparing the New Meadow with the Hoes and Harrows at the Ferry.

Mrs. Lund Washington and Captn. Walter Brooke dined here.

Saturday, 31st. Rid to all the plantations. In the Neck 105 Pannels of Post and rail fencing which was begun there on Wednesday was compleated. Plows listing and Women threshing. At Muddy hole, the Clover seed being cleaned, measured 3 bushls. and 3 quarts. Sowed the Squares No. 2 and 4 at this place with Oats in the following manner, viz. the East half of No. 2 with half a Bushel of Oats from George Town, and the West half with a Bushel of the Poland Oats. The east half of No. 4 with half bushel of the Poland oats, and the West half with a bushel of the George Town Oats. The objects and design of this experiment, was to ascertain 3 things: 1st. which of these two kinds of Oats were best, the George Town (which was a good kind of the common Oats); 2d. Whether 2 or 4 bushels to the acre was best; and 3d the difference between ground dunged at the Rate of 5 load or 200 bushels to the Acre and ground undunged. It is to be observed, however, that though these two squares appeared to be of equal quality,

or rather strength, yet the So. half of each, which had no dung was the lightest and much the greater mixture of Sand in them. Brought another of the Muddy hole plows home from French's, and set it to laying off the 20 acre cut designed (if Carrot Seed can be obtained) for Carrots, Potatoes, Peas and Turnips between the Corn which will be drilled in Rows 10 feet apart. Women Threshing Wheat at this place. Employed at Dogue run as yesterday. At French's harrowing in the Oats about Manley's old houses. As also cross plowing the square next the Road in the other cut, and about 2 Oclock began to cross plow about half of the other part next the Water ditch, east end of it adjoining the Cabins. At the Ferry, the west side of the new Meadow — above the *Water* ditch — was compleated and sowed both with oats and Timothy Seed. The ground appeared to be in very good order by the frequent harrowings it had received.

APRIL

Sunday, first. At home all day.

Mr. Hunter, Mr. Rumney, Mr. Porter, Doctr. Craik and a Captain Mixen dined here, all of whom except Mr. Hunter went away after it. In the evening, one Young who lives on Colo. Ball's place, a farmer, came here to see, he says, my drill plow, and stayed all Night.

Monday, 2d. Mr. Hunter and Young went away before breakfast, and after it, I rid to Muddy hole, Dogue run, French's and the Ferry Plantations. At the first began to sow Clover Seed at the rate of 6 pints to the acre on the lay Wheat and Timothy; but the Wind was so high that the Seed could only be Sown at times when it lulled. This Seed was harrowed in, and where the ground was hard which was pretty generally the case, the harrow run two or 3

times in the same place; This tore out of the ground *some* of the Wheat and Timothy; but not in the proportion as it was supposed the rest would be benifitted by the working. Ordered a pretty heavy roller to follow the harrow to Morrow, to keep close to it afterwards in order to press the loose earth round the roots of the Wheat, and more effectually to cover the clover seed. The work at Dogue run, French's and Ferry going on as on Saturday. Ordered 2 Carts in the Neck to carry dung on the last years Turnips and to be immediately spread that it might receive a 2d plowing for Barley.

Tuesday, 3d. Scarcely a Morning since the high Wind the 23d of March that has not produced frost in a greater or less degree.

Rid to all the Plantations. In the Neck finished listing field No. 3. Ordered the Plows to do the same in field No. 9 with 3 furrows *only*, the others having 5 furrows. Sowing Clover and harrowing and rolling it on the lay Wheat at Muddy hole. Finished Sowing the long field, West of the Mill race, at Dogue run with Oats and Timothy seed; of the first it took [] bushels, and of the latter [] quarts. The quantity of ground may be about 75 acres. At French's began to sow Barley.

Began to Fish to day.

Brought the Ditchers to the home house to finish the New Road, and to compleat the sunk fence in front of the Lawn. Ordered Cupid from the Ferry to return home.

Wednesday, 4th. Rid to the Fishing Landing and to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue run, and Muddy hole. Finished harrowing in all the Oats that were sown in field No. 5 at French's. To sow this field it took 117½ Bushels; the quantity of Land sowed with them is about 40 Acres. The Plows after having cross-plowed the grd.

for Barley in this field went to breaking up No. 2, but I ordered the 3 belonging to Dogue run to return home at Night and leave the two belonging to the Plantation to continue this work. At Dogue run, the upper piece which was in Wheat, in the Meadow, East of the run, was sowed with Oats from Mattawoman, [] bushls., and Timothy [] Quarts. Finished sowing, harrowing, and Rolling the Clover which had been sown on the lay Wheat at Muddy hole, to do which it took 60 pints of Seed — the ground ten acres.

Thursday, 5th. Rid to the Fishing landing, and to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue run and Muddy hole. At the first, sowing Oats and grass seeds on the No. Et. Corner of the New Meadow. At French's finished covering the Barley which was sown on ten acres in field No. 5 — quantity 19 Bushels. This ground had been twice plowed and 4 times harrowed after the Barley was sown — as thus: first half the quantity of Seed sown and harrowed, then the other half sown and harrowed; both as the Plows run, and then twice cross harrowed. N.B. The half sowings was to cause the ground to be more regularly sown. At Dogue run the Harrows began to cover Oats in field No. Q next the road and the Branch by Manley's; and the 3 plows were listing in Field No. 4. At Muddy hole began to sow, harrow, and roll the clover and orchard grass seeds on the Rye by the Barn, which I directed to be sown in the following proportion to the acre, viz: a gallon of orchard grass seeds and six pints of Clover Seed. N.B. All the Clover Seed sown at this place was raised on it.

In the afternoon a Mr. Beall of Williamsburgh came in and stayed all Night.

Friday, 6th. Mr. Beall went away after breakfast.

Rid to all the Plantations and to the Fishing landing at

the Ferry. Listing, and laying off corn at Muddy hole, the latter in the South part of field No. 2, the other every eighth row in the No. part for Carrots. The grd. in field No. 1 at Dogue run preparing for, and sowing with oats, works very fine and well with the Harrows. Rolling the Barley at French's and sowing Flax Seed and Clover in the grd. about the huts at that place, on the Et. side the partition fence between the two Plantations. Rolling the ground in the New Meadw. at the Ferry, which had been sown with Oats and Timothy, and preparing the wettest part of the rest.

Finished sowing the Flax seed and Clover in the ground mentioned above, this afternoon — of the first it took 9 bushls. and of the latter 44 Quarts. This Ground has been plowed, and cross plowed; and well harrowed 3 or 4 times, as occasion required; and will be rolled to morrow, after the roller has passed over the Barley. The qty. abt. $6\frac{1}{2}$ acres.

Saturday, 7th. Rid to the Fishing landing and the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue run, and Muddy hole. At French's the rolling of the Barley, and the Flax seed and Oats would be compleated by Night. And the grd. round the Barn which had been originally intended for Barley was sown upon the first plowing with Oats and grass seeds as the other parts of the field had been. The qty. of grd. being about 5 Acres, recd. 9 bushls. of Oats, and [] gallns. of Orchard grass Seed, [] pints of red clover, and [] pints of Timothy. At Muddy hole plowed the 1st and 3d squares for Barley; as I had done the 2d and 4th before for Oats. These two Squares were, that is the North half of them, manured each with 50 bushels of dung, precisely as those for Oats had been.

In my Botanical garden in the Section immediately adjoining to, and West of the Salt House I sowed first 3 rows

of the Kentucke clover 15 inches apart, and next to these 9 rows of the guinea grass in rows the same distance apart.

Colo. Henry Lee, and his Brother Mr. Richd. Lee came here to dinner and proceeded to Alexandria afterwards.

Sent up to day for my Nephews George and Lawe. Washington, who came down whilst we were at Dinner.

Sunday, 8th. Mrs. Stuart and her daughters Betsy and Patcy Custis came here to dinner and stayed all Night.

At home all day.

Monday, 9th. Clear all day with the Wind variable from So. Wt. to No. Wt. and very high.

Mrs. Stuart went away after breakfast leaving Betsy and Patcy Custis.

At home all day.

Tuesday, 10th. Rid to all the Plantations. Spreading as much dung as I could spare, and find time to carry out on the poorest part of the last year's Turnip field in the Neck. I ordered it to be cross plowed for sowing Barley and clover. The first sowed Oats at this place do not look well, the blade appearing yellow and singed at the ends by the frost, nor have they made much progress in their growth. At Muddy hole, Sowed the 1st and 3d half acre squares (plowed friday last) with three kinds of Barley, in the following manner, viz: Each being divided from No. to South in three exactly equal parts, by which each part was half dunged as mentioned on friday. The Eastermost $\frac{1}{3}$ of each was sowed with 8 qts. of the Barley had from Phila. (originally from Rhode Island) and which my Farmer thought very good. The middle third of each was sowed with the same quantity of the raked Barley, had from Colo. Henry Lee, and the Westermost $\frac{1}{3}$ with a Barley, 8 Quarts also, sent me by Genl. Spotswood under the de-

nomination of Bear, and which in appearance was very much like the Rhode Island or Philadelphia Barley just mentioned. This ground had been twice Plowed, and after the Seed had been sowed was harrowed and cross harrowed. At Dogue run chopped, and made fine a piece of grd. in the Meadow wch. had been plowed, in order to sow in drills the New River grass Seed. At French's finished Sowing the last Oats, viz: a slipe between the Wheat and road, with 2 Bushels together with grass Seeds in the mixture and proportion given to the other ground, and began to Sow the same on the Wheat and to harrow it in.

Mrs. Fanny Washington was delivered of a boy this morning.

Examined the Seed Potatoes, which I had buried for preservation in my Garden, and found them all rotten. The Wet had got to them — whether from the nature of the Soil or improper mode of covering them (though the ground was ridged over them) I know not, but the mode does not appear to be efficacious.

Recd. from Mr. Jno. Lawson, Negro Neptune, on trial as a Bricklayer.

Miss Sally Ramsay came down this evening with Mr. Lear, who went up to Alexandria on my business.

Wednesday, 11th. Rid to all the Plantations. In the Neck, cross plowing, as directed, for Barley. At Muddy hole finished harrowing in grass Seeds on the Rye by the Barn, viz. a bushel of clean red clover Seed, and 13 gallons of Orchard grass seed — qty. of Land abt. 13 Acres. The Barley was sowed as directed; harrowed in, and compleated as mentioned yesterday. Ordered the 6th half acre to be deep plowed for to receive the Jerusalem Artichoke plants. At Dogue Run, began to sow in drills, in the meadow, by the Oats (the rows 18 Inches asunder) the new River grass, had from Colo. Chs. Carter, at least what

remained of it. The Women at this place were hoeing the Wet part of the grd. between the Meadows which the plows could not touch. Ordered them as soon as this was done to go to the Ferry, and Assist in getting the grd. in the New Meadow in order for Oats and Timothy. At French's the Farmer was sowing grass Seeds on the Wheat and was harrowing and rolling it in. The qty. to the acre the same as had been given to the Oat Land in the same field. The double harrows do this work better than the heavier single harrow by raising more mould wch. the Roller presses down again, benefitting both the grain wch. is growing and the Seed wch. is Sown.

Thursday, 12th. Rid to all the Plantatns. The Women from Dogue run had joined those at the Ferry and were working in the New Meadow, preparing it for Oats and Timothy. At French's, the Roller wd. about get over the Wheat which had been sown with grass Seeds and harrowed. At Dogue run I set my Farmer to sowing grass Seeds, viz. Orchard red Clover, and Timothy; in the proportion the grd. adjoining (in Oats) received, viz. 4 quarts of the first, 3 of the 2d., and one of the latter on the lay Wheat. The ground in places being hard, I directed the harrow to go twice over it, the last, crossing the first. Finished yesterday, sowing in drills, the ground allotted with the New River grass seeds. At Muddy hole directed the 6th Square which was deep plowed yesterday, to be harrowed and cross harrowed, and then, with the plow to be laid off into 4 feet Squares or chequers to receive the Jerusalem Artichoke. In the Neck, finished cross plowing the ground for Barley about Sundown yesterday.

Cut my Ram lambs at the several Quarters to day, and at the home house.

Friday, 13th. Rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole,

Dogue run, French's, and the Ferry, and to the Fishing Landing. At Muddy hole the artichokes were planted as directed yesterday, but upon recollection the method does not seem to be proper, because the cross in which they were planted (being at the bottom of the furrow) must be unbroke earth and the bed not so compendious and light as it might have been in a hill. In each of these checks or crosses, one root, when it was large and looked well was put, and two where they were small. None was cut, but this it seems might have been done, as with Potatoes — leaving an eye to each cutting. About $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushels planted the Square, or half Acre; near half a bushel was left for replanting. At Dogue run, finished sowing the Winter fallow by the Ferry road with Pol and Oats and grass Seeds. Of the first it took [] bushls. and of the latter [] gallons of Orchard grass, [] pints of clover, and [] quarts of Timothy. From here the harrows went into the Meadow by the house and began to cover Oats in the fork thereof wch. were sowed on the plowing the ground had received about the [] of []. The ground in No. 1, by the road, by the harrowing in the Oats with the heavy harrow once, and sometimes where it was hard or grassy, twice, and the crossing to put in the grass seeds was got light, smooth and in very good order. The Barley at this place was begun to be sowed on a second plowing of the ground by the Bars near the house in the Meadow this afternoon, and the lay Wheat which had been harrowed, and cross harrowed got rolled this evening. Making the trunnel fence at French's in the line that divides this Plantation from the Ferry. The Barley here was perceived to be coming up thick and well. At the ferry, breaking, and rounding as fine as the case would admit, the ground in the New Meadow. Sowed $7\frac{1}{2}$ bushls. of Barley in the Turnip ground wch. had been plowed and cross-plowed and harrowed it in with the dble. harrow.

Mr. Benjn. Grymes (of the Eagle's Nest) ¹ came here this Evening and stayed all Night.

Saturday, 14th. Mr. Grymes went up to Alexandria after breakfast, returned to dinner, and crossed the River afterwards.

Rid to all the Plantations. In the Neck sowed on the Barley which was put in yesterday a bushel (lacking a quart) of the Clover seed which was saved at Muddy hole, harrowed, and rolled it in. Began yesterday afternoon to make or rectify the fence around field No. 3. Directed the Plows, which were laying off in field No. 9, to lay off what is east of the branch which runs through the field, 4 feet each way; that it may be planted with a single stalk of Corn in a hill. Rid over the rye at this place, and was surprised to see how much it had amended; the two Eastermost cuts (except in a few places which appeared to have been injured by the wet) looked very promising, and nearly thick enough, and the Westermost cut, in wch. hardly any was to be perceived all winter, and till very lately, discovered a good deal.

At Muddy hole laying off and listing for Corn.

At Dogue run, besides sowing Oats as mentioned yesterday, and grass Seeds in the same proportion as in field No. 1, the Island (abt. 4 Acres) in the Mill Meadow was cross plowing, and sowing with Barley. Rid over the rye at this place, which was exceedingly bad; in great part of the field not any; whe[ther] this was altogether owing to late sowing, or to that and harrowing the grd. too level when sowed, is questionable. The forward Wheat at this place, where the ground is tolerably good, looks well; and the latter Wheat seems to be coming on beyond expectation. The Cape Wheat is forwarder than the common wheat and has a broader blade. The Spelts, black and common, looking very indifferently.

¹ Chotank.

At French's the Flax was coming up. Work here going on as yesterday.

At the Ferry the same.

Monday, 16th. Went up to Alexandria to the election of Delegates to represent the County in General Assembly, when Colo. Mason and Doctr. Stuart were chosen.

Returned in the Evening, accompanied by Colo. Mason, his two Sons, William and George, and his Son in law, Colo. Cooke.¹

Ordered my Overseers in the Neck, and at Muddy hole to begin (with the drill plows) to plant Corn.

Tuesday, 17th. Colo. Mason and his Sons, and Colo. Cook going away about 11 O'clock, I rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue run, French's and the Ferry. At the first they had begun to harrow the list and plant Corn with the drill plow, but the land having been thrown into a 3 furrow list and from being hard and dry not well broke, I ordered both to desist and to make the 3 furrows 5 that the ground might be better prepared.

At Dogue run the Island in the Mill meadow had been sown with Barley and grass (Timothy only) and each harrowed in after the ground had been cross-plowed. From hence the Plows went into the other Meadow to cross plow the ground on the West side of it for Barley, beginning next the piece which had been sowed with the 3 bushels of Oats from Generl. Spotswood's. The ground in the fork, within this meadow between the Meadow and swamp was sown both with Oats and the mixture of Clover Orchd. grass and Timothy seed as usual and the harrowing of them in (on the first plowing) compleated. To do this it required [] bushels of Oats and grass seeds in proportion.

¹ Colonel John Cooke married Mary Mason.

From hence they went to the plowed ground between the upper and lower part of this Meadow.

At French's; Fencing as usual.

At the Ferry, they were so near finishing chopping over, and compleating the ground in the New Meadow for Oats and Timothy, that I ordered the Dogue-run hands home. This tedious job would be about compleated tomorrow, though the ground would not be in such good order as were to be wished, as it was next to impossible to get the grassy clods wch. were hoed up, in the lowest part of it perfectly reduced. However, by the assistance of the harrows and roller, it will be laid tolerably smooth and fine, and dry.

Wednesday, 18th. Mr. Jonathan Williams[†] of Nantz, Nephew of Doctr. Franklin's, came here yesterday, dined, and returned to Alexandria in order to proceed on in the Stage for Richmond.

Rid to all the Plantations. In the Neck, they finished fencing of field No. 3, and began to plant Corn with the drill plow on Monday afternoon in it, preceeded by two harrows, a heavier and a lighter, which were directed to go as often on the list as would make the ground fine. Ordered to day, a hand to follow the drill to cover any Corn that the small harrow at the tale of it should miss doing. These workings would put the Corn in very effectually and well.

At Muddy hole began to sow Carrot Seeds betwn. the rows intended for Corn. Rubbed the seeds, so as to sepe- rate them well: then mixed a pint (thus prepared) in half a bushel of dry sand incorporating them well and sprinkling it along the list which was previously harrowed once, twice, or more, to render it sufficiently fine; lastly followed a light bush to cover the Seed. This method if it answers is

[†] Jonathan Williams had been United States Commercial Agent at Nantes, France, during the Revolution. He later entered the army, rose to the rank of major-general, and became Superintendent of the Military Academy at West Point. He is sometimes referred to as the 'Father of the Engineer Corps.'

expeditious, but the plants if too thick will be to be thinned either by the hoe or with the hand. Ordered two plows from French's after they were done with the Barley at Dogue run to come to this place to assist in preparing the ground, etca.

At Dogue run; sowing Barley, Oats, and grass seeds in the home meadow as yesterday. Women putting up the New fence but ordered them to chop in Oats in the low parts wch. had been hoed, and where the Plows and harrows could not make good work.

At French's; about the Fencing. The Barley and Flax at this place were up thick and well.

At the Ferry; finished all the work of the New Meadow, both the Oats and grass being Sowed, harrowed, and rolled in.

In the Afternoon, Mr. Wil. Craik and his Sisters, Jenifer and Nancy, came in and stayed all Night.

Adjoining the rows of Guinea grass in my botanical gardn. (sowed the 7th instt.) I sowed 12 rows more next to these, and compleating the Section are 19 rows of the Birding-grass sent me by Mr. Sprigg¹ of Annapolis.

Thursday, 19th. This Morning there was a small white frost and a black one wch. was so severe as to stop brick laying till the sun had removed the effect of it. The leaves of the clover in the lawn were quite stiff. There was Ice full half an inch thick. Before noon the Wind got to the Southward but blew moderately; the air nevertheless continued cool.

Mr. Craik and his Sisters went away after breakfast.

I rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue run, French's, and the Ferry, and to the fishing landing.

At Muddy hole, finished sowing Carrot seed in drills, viz. Every eighth row of exactly 20 acres of Corn; drilled

¹ Richard Sprigg.

in rows 5 feet apart. These were sowed in the manner, and in grd. prepared as mentioned yesterday, in two equal parts; the Northernmost of which was sowed with the large Orange Carrot Seed (sent to me unaccompanied by a letter, or intimation from whom it came). The other half was sown with Carrot seed in my garden, and to be relied on. Of the first it took a quart, and about a gill to sow the Northern 10 acres; of the latter it is presumed the same quantity sufficed. No acct. of the qty. rendered. The 8th square, or half acre which had been plowed the 11th instt. for the Sweet Potatoes, was, the West half of it, hilled this day (by order yesterday) to plant, whilst the other half was to have been planted in drills 4 feet apart between the row; and 8 inches between the cuttings or sets in the rows to try the difference; but the frost last night induced me to postpone this planting. Two plows, according to order, came to work here to day; recommenced planting of Corn with the drill plow at this place, this afternoon. The harrow was ordered to preceed it once, or as many times as the ground, from the clodiness, or grassiness of it, should appear to need it, to prepare the ground for the drill.

At Dogue run, putting in Barley, Oats, and grass Seeds as yesterday. The Women were hoeing the low part between the two meadows, that is breaking the clods and pulverising the ground to fit it for the seed. Sowed the remainder of the New River grass seeds in broadcast (yesterday just before the rain fell) adjoining that wch. had been sowed in drills the 11th inst. at this place.

At French's, fencing on the ditch between fields No. 2 and 3, with trunnels.

At the Ferry the plows had just finished listing the So. cut of field No. 1 below the hill, and the Women were employed in making the trunnel fence on the ditch along the road.

A good many Herrings were caught last Night and this afternoon, at my fishery, but few this forenoon.

Friday, 20th. Rid to all the Plantations.

In the Neck, the grd. being rather hard, and in places rough, two harrows could not prepare it sufficiently to keep the drill plow constantly at work. I therefore ordered the plowman who attended it to make good the work of covering the corn, which the little harrow at the tail of it might leave unfinished, and this he is well able to do, because where the ground is difficult to prepare he can outgo the harrows, and here it is assistance is wanting. When the ground is light and the harrows prepare it sufficiently there is no occasion of the hoe to follow. This supercedes the necessity of the special hand ordered for this service on Wednesday last. When the grd. is naturally light, or well pulverized the drill plow plants with great dispatch, regularity, and to good effect; where it is rough and hard, manual labour as in the common mode must be applied.

Muddy hole, cross-plowed deep the east half of the 10th half acre or Square, for the purpose of sowing Carrots in Broadcast. Before plowing, the Northern half of this piece was manured with 25 bushels of Dung; and after plowing it was harrowed, to be ready for sowing in the Morning. Finished laying off Corn ground at this place about breakfast time.

At Dogue run, Finished Sowing Oats wch. compleated my seeding of this grain (except a little at the Mansion house with which to sow grass Seeds). The whole quantity of Oats sowed at this Plantation amounts to 215 bushls., whereof 59 were Poland, in field No. 1; the rest were 50 from York River, 52 from Mattawoming, 29 from Mr. Young's, 13½ from George Town, and 12 from the Eastern Shore. The quantity of Barley sowed here amounted to 22 Bushels. With the Oats and Barley which were sown in

field No. 1, and the inclosure of the Meadow near the Overseer's house, was sown 4 bushls. and a galln. of red clover Seed. $5\frac{1}{2}$ bushls. of Orchard grass seeds, and 1 bushl. and 3 Gal. of Timothy seed. The other oats in the Mill Meadow, and long field adjoining, had only Timothy seed mixed, of which there was sown in them 3 bushels and 6 gallns.

At French's and the Ferry the People were putting up fences.

On my return home I found Mr. Arthur Lee, the Revd. Mr. West, Mr. McQuir, Mr. Porter, and Mr. Triplett here. All of whom went away after dinner except Mr. Lee and Mr. Porter.

Saturday, 21st. Mr. Porter going away before breakfast and Mr. Lee directly after it, I rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue run, French's, and the Ferry, and to the fishing Landing.

At Muddy hole, in the ground which was cross plowed, and harrowed yesterday, (which did not make it very fine) I sowed $2\frac{1}{2}$ pints of Carrot seeds; which weighed 1 lb. lacking an ounce, and which is at the rate of 4 lbs. to the acre, the qty. directed in Young's *Annals of Agriculture*. Harrowed them in with a light bush. Half the Seed was mixed in half a bushel of Sand and sown, and then the other half in the like quantity, and sown over it a second time, to spread them more regularly. These seeds were a mixture of the large Orange, and others, and from my garden. The goodness uncertn.

At Dogue run directed a small spot of low ground in the swamp, between the two meadows, to be hoed up, and made fine on which to sow part of the Birding grass which was sent to me by Mr. Sprig; and which he wrote me delighted in low, moist land. Three plows were listing and a heavy harrow running after them, to see if the ground

could, without a second plowing, be sufficiently pulverized to plant Corn in with the drill plow.

At French's and the Ferry, fencing as yesterday.

No great hand made of fishing. Few were caught in the forenoon of this day and only about 30,000 last Night.

Sunday, 22d. Doctr. Craik returned here this forenoon from Maryland, dined and proceeded afterwards to Alexandria.

At home all day.

Monday, 23d. Rid to all the Plantations.

In the Neck began with James Lawson, Danl. Overdonck, Boatswain, Charles, Bath, Robin and Pascal, to dig a ditch to the Post and rail fence erected on the line between Colo. Mason and me. The ditch to be 5 feet at top, 18 Inches at bottom, and two feet deep, and to be faced with sod. Lawson, Boatswain, Robin and Paskall beginning at the So., and Danl., Charles, and Bath at the No. end, working towards each other. Drilling corn going on but slow, because the harrows cannot prepare the ground fast enough for the Drill. Davy, and Ned, Ben, Essex and Robin; and two women, began to put up the Posts and rails through the Woods. Barley coming up at this place. Oats look very thin, especially in some parts of the Orchard Inclosure Cutting down Corn Stalks in field No. 2.

At Muddy hole. Planting Corn with the drill plow after the harrow, 3 plows listing the intermediate rows between the Corn. Overseer and Women cutting down Corn Stalks. Carting out dung on field No. 1.

At Morris's (that is Dogue run), One plow is laying off, 2 are listing, and one Team harrowing, to prepare the lists for Corn. Sowed abt. a Quart of Birding grass (sent me by Mr. Sprigg), partly on the ground prepared on Saturday, and partly on a little spot near the Spring (which had

been sown with Barley). The first was sown with Oats. Overseer and Womn. making up fences round the Mill Meadow.

At French's raising a trunnel fence on the ditch between fields No. 2 and 3. And a harrow employed in crossing the ground which was first plowed in the first. The Barley at this place is come up well, and looks well, and the Oats tolerable, considering the dryness of the ground. The Flax also is up thick, and looks well.

At the Ferry 3 plows are listing, the other hands cutting down Corn stalks.

But poor success in fishing to-day.

Sowed in drills in the Inclosure behind the Stables (called the Vineyard) on the west side of it, the Seeds of the honey locust. Part of these were sown on Saturday and part today; part remains yet to be sown. The rows were about 15 Inches apart, and the Seeds an inch or two asunder in them.

Tuesday, 24th. Rid to the Fishing landing and to the Ferry, French's, Dogue run, and Muddy hole Plantations.

Caught many fish at the first this evening.

At the Ferry, clearing the Wheat field of the Corn Stalks and listing as yesterday with 3 plows.

At French's still about the same fence and harrowing as yesterday.

At Dogue run, laying the worm of the New fence through the Woods. Sowed the remains of my Carrot Seed between the rows intended for Corn, first ploughing the list a second time (as the first), and then harrowing it 4 times with the heavy harrow, after wch. the Seed (mixed in sand) was sown. The first row (west side next the huts) with a little Seed from Miss Balendine. The 3 Next (Carrot) rows, all to 50 yds. from the So. end, at which a stake is driven, are of the early Carrot, and the others 6 in

number besides the piece are the large red Carrot. Directed a bush to be passed over the Seeds thus sown. Of the last kind there was near a Quart Sown.

At Muddy hole, preparing for, and planting Corn with the drill, as yesterday. Also cutting down Corn Stalks and Cartg. out Dung.

Majr. G. Washington's Child which had been sick since Sunday, and appearing to be very ill occasioned the sending for the Revd. Mr. Massey to Christen it, who arriving about 5 Oclk. performed the Ceremony and stayed the evening.

Wednesday, 25th. The Major's child dying betwn. 7 and 8 O'clock A.M., Mr. Massey stayed to bury it. About 10 O'clock Doctr. and Mrs. Stuart arrived, and as we were setting down to dinner Doctr. Craik came in from Maryland — all of whom went away after it.

A good many fish caught before the rain.

Thursday, 26th. Rid to all the Plantations. In the Neck the People were putting up the fence between fields No. 4 and No. 9. The last of which would be listed by Night, when two plows would go to crossing the list of No. 9, and the rest to preparing No. 3 for Corn by relisting the grd. that had got hard by laying. The harrows and drill plow working as usual. The Overseer and other Men putting up the Posts and rails through the Woods. The ditchers did about 2 rods each of the five foot ditch they began on Monday and sodded it.

At Muddy hole, the Corn Stalks would be cut down and piled this evening, and the people would next be employed about the New ground in front of the Mansion house, in hoeing up the old list of last year wch. never was planted. The plows at work as usual.

At Dogue-run, the last sowed Barley, and the Clover

wch. was first sown, were coming up. The New river grass which was sown broad with Oats and that wch. was sown in drills was also coming up. Began here with 3 pair of dble. harrows and one single one to harrow clover, orchard grass, and Timothy as a mixture on that part of the Wheat and rye which falls within field No. 1. The Women were raising and securing the fence about the Meadow near the Overseer's House.

At French's, two plows were, as before, at work at Muddy hole and a harrow at Dogue run. The Overseer, Women and boys grubbing, and cleaning the sides of the Meadow by Manley's house.

At the Ferry, the 3 plows were listing, and the Women and other hands, after having picked up and piled the Corn Stalks, came to this side (South) of the New ground in front of the Mansion house.

Receiving an Express between 4 and 5 Oclock this afternoon informing me of the extreme illness of my Mother and Sister Lewis, I resolved to set out for Fredericksburgh by daylight in the Morning, and spent the evening in writing some letters on business respecting the Meeting of the Cincinnati, to the Secretary General of the Society, Genl. Knox.

A Capt'n. McCannon¹ came here this evening and got 40 Diplomas signed for the Delaware line.

Friday, 27th. About sun rise I commenced my journey as intended. Bated at Dumfries, and reached Fredericksburgh before two Oclock and found both my Mother and Sister better than I expected. The latter out of danger as is supposed, but the extreme low State in wch. the former was left little hope of her recovery as she was exceedingly reduced and much debilitated by age and the disorder. Dined and lodged at my Sister's.

¹ Captain William McCammon, of the Delaware Regiment.

Saturday, 28th. Dined at Mrs. Lewis's and Drank Tea at Judge Mercer. Genl. Weedon, Colo. Chs. Carter, Judge Mercer, and Mr. Jno. Lewis and his wife dined with me at my Sister's.

Sunday, 29th. Dined at Colo. Charles Carter's, and drank Tea at Mr. John Lewis's.

Monday, 30th. Set out about Sun rise on my return home. Halted at Dumfries for about an hour where I breakfasted. Reached home about 6 Oclock in a sml. shower, which did not continue (and that not hard) for more than 15 Minutes.

On my return recd. the following report of the Weather and business of the plantations. viz.

			M.	N. Night.
Friday	27th	Mercy.	50....	63.. 58
Saturday	28	Do.	51....	72.. 58
Sunday	29	Do.	58....	74
Monday	30	Do.	58....	74

27th. In the morning the Wind was at No. Wt. At Noon So. W. and at Night, calm.

Many Fish caught today. No demand for them.

At the Ferry, the plows were listing, and the People grubbing in the New ground. Drill plow sent for to begin Corn planting, preceeded by the harrow.

At French's, the People were grubbing and cleaning along the sides of the Meadow, two plows at Muddy hole and a harrow at Dogue run.

At Dogue run, the Women were hoeing the inclosed Tobacco ground for Corn, 1 Plow listing, and 4 harrows putting in grass Seeds at the rate of [] gallns. of Orchard Grass, [] quarts of red Clover, and [] qts. of Timothy to the Acre on the Wheat and rye in field No. 1.

At Muddy hole, Planted half an Acre of the Sweet

Potatoes, one half of which (containing 1240 hills) were in Hills, the other half was in rows 4 feet apart. The cuttings about 6 inches apart in the Rows; which were marked by the Plow. To plant the hills (with 2 or 3 cuttings in each) it took $1\frac{1}{2}$ Bushl.; a bushl. of wch. was had from Marshall's Ne[gro]les, and the remaining half bushl. was of those brot. from York River. Those in drills (14 in number) took a bushel and a peck — the Bushel had from Marshall's People, and the Peck fm. my old Negro fellow, Jupiter.

Finished planting the Seed of the honey locust, began on the [] instt.

Breaking the remainder of the Turnip patch at the home house for Oats and grass Seeds.

Much fish caught and no demand for them; Salting them up.

At the Ferry commenced Corn planting with the drill plow; first running the harrow on the list, to smooth and pulverise the ground 3, 4, and sometimes oftener, before the drill, and this not enabling the small harrow at the end, to cover well on acct. of the grassiness of the grd. particularly wire grass, a hand followed with a hoe to make the work good.

At French's the hands employed as yesterday.

At Dogue run, nearly so, except that a plow was re-listing for Parsnips which were intended to commence where the Carrots ended, and to occupy every 8th row in like manner as they did. Finished sowing Grass seeds on the Wheat and rye in field No. 1, quantity of which amounted to 32 gallons of Orchard grass; 12 gallons of red clover and [] gallons of Timothy Seed. This ground was harrowed and cross harrowed and the roller was following them. The grd. where the rye was and which had been harrowed in the fall was very hard, run together, and much baked.

At Muddy hole, finished planting Corn with the drill

about 1 O'clock, and sent it to Dogue run. All the plows now, 6 in number went to compleating the intermediate lists. Hands at the New grd. in front of the Ho[me] House.

In the Neck, 3 plows listing in Field No. 3, two harrows following them, and the drill plow following the Harrows. In field No. 9 two Plows were crossing to prepare for Plantg. Corn. Women staking and ridering fence of the said field.

30th. But few fish caught to day.

At the Ferry drilling corn as on Saturday, but run the harrow oftener — 6 times at least — before the drill which made it do better work. One plow listing; — the hands in the New grd.

At French's, employed as on Saturday.

At Dogue run, the Harrows having finished puttg. in grass Seeds, the one from French's returned home, and those belonging to the place went to preparing by listing Corn grd., whilst the drill plow preceeded by the harrow began to plant. Women hoeing New ground. Roller going.

At Muddy hole, the Plows were breaking up the corn field, and the other hands listing the New grd. at the home house.

At the River Plantation began to Plant Corn in field No. 9.

Hoeing up the old road through the Turnip fld. at home, and otherwise preparing the grd. for the intended seed by crossing-plowing it.

MAY

Tuesday, first. Notwithstanding my fatigue I rid to all the Plantations to day. The Ditchers in the Neck had compleated about 500 yards of the 5 feet ditch, or in other words about 2 rods each pr. day.

The Drill plow would about finish the 2d. cut of No. 3 by Noon. The Barley by the Barn is either not all come up, or was irregularly sown. The clover among it is up in places thick. The first planted Corn is coming up and destroyed by the Birds as fast as it appears. Harrowing in Timothy Seed on the Middle cut of Rye. This must have been much too long delayed, as the Rye was almost on the point of putting forth its ear; but being thin did not appear to be much, if any, injured by the harrowing and trampling.

At Muddy hole, the Plows and hands employed as yesterday. No appearance of the first planted Corn at this place coming up.

At Dogue run Parsnips all but the two last rows of them, west of the Road leading from the gate to the Houses were sown in the same manner, and with the same preparation of the grd. as the Carrots had been. In other respects all things were going on as yesterday.

At French's, the same as yesterday, except that a harrow was crossing the plowing in No. 2.

Wednesday, 2d. Rid to the Fishing landing where few fish were caught, and to the Ferry, French's and Dogue run Plantations; also to the Carpenters.

At the Ferry, the Work going on as yesterday, except that the drill plow having finished the No. end (beyond a sml. branch) was stopped till the harrow could make head before it. In the mean while the Plow man went to crossing in the other part of the field which was intended for Corn in the common way, 5 feet. A Plow was listing in stony field part of No. 1. Women, etca. working in the New grd.

At French's, the same work going on as yesterday.

At Dogue run the same. The drill plow about Noon had got on the East side of the road leading up to the Houses.

The Oats every where in strong and moist land seem to thrive; but appear at a std. elsewhere. The Barley at

French's look well.~ And the Cape wheat at Dogue run is forwarder than the common Wheat; but not more branched, perhaps less so, and of a paler green. It was, or has been observed before, more eaten by the Sheep, and other stock that had been fed upon the feed than any of the other — whether owing to any peculiar taste, or to its being generally forwarder cannot be determined with precision.

A Mr. Wilson of Elizabh. Town, in the State of New Jersey called here, to know on wht. terms I would dispose of my tract of Land in Fayette and Washington Counties. These I gave him agreeably to what I had mentioned in my letter to Colo. Jno. Cannon.¹

At Fredericksburgh I was informed by Mr. Chs. Yates, a Gentleman on whose veracity entire confidence may be placed, that he has tried the experiment of raising Irish Potatoes by laying them on unbroke, hard, or grassy ground and covering them with straw and found them to succeed admirably. The following he gave as an instance, viz. an irregular piece of ground 28 of his steps one way, which he computed might be abt. 23 yards, 18 wide at one end, and 8 or 10 at the other, reduced in the same proportion will not exceed 255 sqr. yards. These he says produced 36 bushls. of fine large well tasted Potatoes, and 12 bushl. of Seed Potatoes. In this proportion an Acre would yield 900 Bushels, but as Mr. Yates said that he computed at the time upon 700 bushls., it is probable there may be some mistake as to measurement of the ground or Roots. The way he managed was this: In April he laid the Seed Potatoes (after cutting them in the usual manner) on the ground (no matter what sort of land he

¹ Colonel John Cannon, of Pennsylvania. Washington made him his agent for these lands which were being used by squatters. Washington's terms for the Fayette County land, which included the old Fort Necessity site, were forty shillings an acre, and thirty shillings for the Washington County lands. The letter to Cannon is dated April 13, 1787, and is in the Washington Letter Books, Washington Papers, Library of Congress.

thinks) in rows 2 feet asunder, and the cuttings 8 or 9 inches apart in the rows. The whole of this Space was then covered 6 inches thick with straw. When the Potatoe vines had risen 6 Inches through this bed of straw another of equal thickness — that is 6 inches — was spread between the rows and close up to the stems; after which nothing was done with them. The Land on which these Potatoes grew was perfectly cleansed of weeds, etca., when the Potatoes and Straw were taken of, and ameliorated.

Mr. Yates also mentioned another matter worthy of attention, respecting Potatoes; which was discovered accidentally, viz. that some in a Corn field which had remained over (being left when the rest were dug, or unattended to), being covered with Corn stalks in the usual manner when they are cut down and thrown into heaps, grew (the tops) through the stalks and yielded abundantly of very fine Potatoes. Query, whether this covering, laid on thicker will not do instead of straw?

It seems to be agreed by the farmers about Fredericksburgh that 6 bushels of Clover in the pug, or chaff is equal to 16 lbs. of clean Seed, and that either is sufficient for an Acre. Colo. Carter sows 2 Bushels of Orchard grass (when alone) to an Acre, and one peck, when unmixed with other seed, of Timothy. When clover and orchard grass are sown together he gives 10 lb. of the first and a bushel of the latter.

Sowed the Turnip patch, and last years Cowpens in front of the Mansion house with Oats 11 bushels, Orchard Grass 3 Bushels, and Clover 1 Bushel. The qty. of ground, my Farmer thinks is near 4 Acres, but I believe this is large guessing — perhaps there may be about [].

Thursday, 3d. Rid to the Fishing landing, and thence to the Ferry, French's, Dogue run, and Muddy hole Planta-

tions with my Nephew G. W.,¹ to explain to him the Nature, and the ordr. of the business at each as I would have it carried on during my absence at the Convention in Philadelphia.²

At the Ferry the same work going on as yesterday.

Likewise at French's the same.

The same also at Dogue run.

And at Muddy hole nothing differing from yesterday. At the latter the Corn ground will go near to be broke up this day.

Friday, 4th. Rid into the Neck to explain to G. W. the business to be done there, and mode of conducting it.

At this place the Post and rail fence around field No. 9 would be closed, and entirely compleated (except the ditch) by Noon. Harrowing, drilling, and listing in field No. 3 going on as usual. The first planted Corn in this field appears to have been much destroyed by the birds, and the first planting of all not to have come up. Finished planting in field No. 9, the So. Wt. cut, and began the middle cut with the corn from Nomeny.

At Muddy hole finished breaking up the Corn ground, ordered the two plows from French's home, and the plows of the Plantation to cross plow the 9th square allotted for experiments (to be previously dunged as the others had been) in order to receive the bunch Nomeny bean, the common hominy bean, and the common black eyed Pease.

At Dogue run, the Harrow, drill, and other plows were working as yesterday. Finished Hoeing the Tobacco grd.

¹ George Augustine Washington, who managed the farms in Washington's absence. He performed the same service during Washington's first administration as President of the United States.

² The Convention that formulated the United States Constitution. Washington, along with Governor Edmund Randolph, George Mason, John Blair, James Madison, George Wythe, and Patrick Henry, had been elected by the Assembly as delegate from Virginia, December 4, 1786. Henry declined to serve, and James McClurg was appointed in his stead, May 2, 1787.

which had been inclosed by French's for Corn. And sowed 9 gallons of Clover Seed on the Barley in the Island in the Great Meadow, and ordered it to be rolled in.

At French's the Harrow at work as usual. The two plows from Muddy hole would return home to their Work after dinner, and the rest of the People were grubbing along the sides of the Meadow, and preparing them for grass.

A Person calling himself Hugh Patten dined here and returned to Alexandria afterwards.

Saturday, 5th. Rid to the Fishing landing, Ferry, French's, and D[ogue] run Plantations.

At the first Plantation One Plow was listing in the Stoney field, another crossing in the flat, and the harrow preparing for the drill plow. The Women preparing, and hoeing the New grd. in front of the House.

At French's two Plows were set to plowing alongside the Meadow, where the roots and Grubs had been taken out in order to prepare it for grass Seeds; but making bad work my farmer thought the grd. cd. not be made fit to receive them this Spring. One harrow was harrowing as usual, and the rest of the People grubbing. The clover seemed to be coming up pretty thick in places among the flax. The Flax and Barley seemed to grow pretty well.

At Dogue-run, one Plow was crossing in the last years Tobo. grd. for Corn. In the laps of the fence Inclosg. it 139 pumpkin hills were Planted. Drilling corn, and listing going on as usual there.

At Muddy hole, the Plows began to break up the ground which was in drill Corn last year for Turnips, Pease, Potatoes, etca. Finished plantg. their part of the New ground in front of the home house with Corn, in every other 4th Row of which and 10th hill two Pumpkin seeds were planted through the whole ground.

Ordered this to be done on the other side by the Ferry People.

Mr. Bull,¹ a Delegate in Congress from South Carolina on his return to that, came here to dinner and stayed all Night.

Sunday, 6th. Colo. Fitzgerald, Doctr. Stuart, and Doctr. Craik came here to dinner and returned afterwards.

Monday, 7th. At home preparing for my journey to Philadelphia.

In the afternoon Colo. Simms and Darke came in, the first expecting to meet the Governr.² here, on business of the Potomack Compy. Both returned in the Evening.

Tuesday, 8th. The Weather being squally with showers I defer'd setting off till the Morning. Mr. Chas. Lee came in to dinner but left it afterwards.

A concise Acct. of my journey to Philadelphia, and the manner of spending my time there, and places where, will now follow.³ After wch. I shall return to the detail of Plantation occurrences as they respect my Crops and intended experiments agreeably to the Reports which have been made to me by my Nephew, Geo. Auge. Washington in my absence.

¹ John Bull.

² Edmund Randolph.

³ For the period of Washington's attendance in the Constitutional Convention, two diaries exist. Both are in Washington's own handwriting. One seems to be the rough notes, jotted down at the time, or at the close of each day's transactions, the other a clean copy, rewritten and revised from the first rough notes. This revised copy may not have been written up until after Washington's return to Mount Vernon. The diary here printed is the revised copy; such information as is found in the rough notes, that has been omitted from the revised copy, is inserted here in brackets. The rough notes diary covers the period May 9th to November 15th, inclusive.

Wednesday, 9th. Crossed from Mt. Vernon to Mr. Digges a little after Sun rise and pursuing the rout by the way of Baltimore, dined at Mr. Richd. Henderson's in Bladensburg, and lodged at Majr. Snowden's,¹ where, feeling very severely a violent head-ach and sick stomach, I went to bed early.

Thursday, 10th. Very great appearances of rain in the morning, and a little falling, induced me, tho' well recovered to wait till abt. 8 O'clock before I set off. At one O'clock I arrived at Baltimore. Dined at the Fountain, and Supped and lodged at Doctr. McHenry's.² Slow rain in the Evening.

Friday, 11th. Set off before breakfast, rid 12 miles to Skerrett's [Tavern] for it; baited there, and proceeded without halting (weather threatening) to the Ferry at Havre de gras, where I dined, but could not cross, the wind being turbulent and squally. Lodged here.

Saturday, 12th. With difficulty (on acct. of the Wind) crossed the Susquehanna. Breakfasted at the Ferry house on the East side. Dined at the head of Elk (Hollingsworth's Tavern), and lodged at Wilmington at O'Flins.³ At the Head of Elk I was overtaken by Mr. Francis Corbin⁴ who took a seat in my carriage [to Wilmington].

Sunday, 13th. About 8 O'clock Mr. Corbin and myself set out, and dined at Chester (Mrs. Withys),⁵ where I was

¹ Major Thomas Snowden's at Elk Ridge Landing.

² Dr. James McHenry, one of Washington's aides in the Revolution and, later, Secretary of War of the United States.

³ Patrick O'Flynn, at the 'Sign of the Ship.'

⁴ Francis Corbin was then a member of the Virginia Assembly.

⁵ Mrs. Mary Whitbey's. She was the widow of John Whitbey, an English army officer. Her hostelry, known as the 'Columbia Hotel,' was considered among the best in America.

met by the Genls. Mifflin ¹ (now Speaker of the Pennsylvania Assembly) Knox ² and Varnum; ³ the Colonels Humphreys ⁴ and Minges; ⁵ and Majors Jackson ⁶ and Nicholas, ⁷ with whom [after dinner] I proceeded to Philada. At Gray's Ferry the city light horse, commanded by Colo. Miles, ⁸ met me, and [by whom and a large concourse I was escorted] escorted me in by the artillery officers who stood arranged [at the entrance of the City] and saluted as I passed. Alighted through a crowd at Mrs. House's ⁹; but being again warmly and kindly pressed by Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Morris to lodge with them, I did so, and had my baggage removed thither.

Waited on the President, Doctr. Franklin, as soon as I got to Town. On my arrival, the Bells were chimed.

Monday, 14th. This being the day appointed for the Convention to meet, such members as were in town assembled at the State Ho. but only two States being represented, viz. Virginia and Pennsylvania, agreed to attend at the same place tomorrow [at 11 O'clock].

Dined in a family way at Mr. Morris's [and drk. Tea there].

Tuesday, 15th. Repaired, at the hour appointed to the

¹ Thomas Mifflin.

² Henry Knox, major-general and chief of artillery in the Revolution; Washington's first Secretary of War under the new Constitution.

³ James Mitchell Varnum, brigadier-general, Continental Army; commanded the Rhode Island Brigade; delegate to the Continental Congress.

⁴ David Humphreys.

⁵ Lieutenant-Colonel Francis Mentges, of the Fifth Pennsylvania Regiment; he had also been Superintendent of the Continental Hospital in Virginia.

⁶ Major William Jackson had been Assistant Secretary at War under the Continental Congress. He became the Secretary of the United States Constitutional Convention, then assembling.

⁷ Francis Nichols (?), of the Seventh Pennsylvania Regiment.

⁸ Colonel Samuel Miles, of the Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment, and Deputy-Quartermaster-General of the Continental Army.

⁹ Mrs. Mary House; her boarding-house was at Fifth and Market Streets. (*Baker, Washington after the Revolution.*)

State Ho., but no more States being represented than were yesterday (tho' several more members had come in [viz. No. Carolina and Delaware as also Jersey]), we agreed to meet again to morrow. Govr. Randolph ¹ from Virginia came in today.

Dined with the Members, to the Genl. Meeting of the Society of the Cincinnati.

Wednesday, 16th. No more than two States being yet represented, agreed till a quorum of them should be formed to alter the hour of meeting at the State house to one oclock [Dr. McClurg ² of Virginia came in].

Dined at the President Doctr. Franklin's, and drank Tea, and spent the evening at Mr. Jno. Penn's.

Thursday, 17th. Mr. Rutledge ³ from Charleston and Mr. Chs. Pinckney ⁴ from Congress [New York] having arrived, gave a representation to So. Carolina, and Colo. Mason ⁵ getting in this Evening placed all the Delegates from Virginia on the floor of Convention.

Dined at Mr. Powell's ⁶ and drk. Tea there.

Friday, 18th. The representation from New York appeared on the floor today.

Dined [at a Club] at Grey's ferry, [over the Schuylkill] and drank Tea at Mr. Morris's; after which accompanied Mrs. and some other ladies to hear a Mrs. O'Connell read (a charity affair), The lady being reduced in circumstances had had recourse to this expedient to obtain a little money. Her performance was tolerable. at the College Hall.⁷

Saturday, 19th. No more States represented [— agreed to meet at one oclock on Monday].

¹ Edmund Randolph.

² James McClurg.

³ John Rutledge.

⁴ Charles Pinckney.

⁵ Colonel George Mason.

⁶ Samuel Powell.

⁷ College Hall was on Fourth Street below Arch. (*Baker.*)

Dined at Mr. Ingersoll's,¹ spent the evening at my lodgings and retired to my room soon.

Sunday, 20th. [Went into the Country with Mr. and Mrs. Morris] Dined with Mr. and Mrs. Morris and other company at their farm (called the Hills).² Returned in the afternoon and drank Tea at Mr. Powell's.

Monday, 21st. Delaware State was represented. Dined, and drank Tea at Mr. Bingham's³ in great splendor.

Tuesday, 22d. The Representation from No. Carolina was compleated, which made a representation for five States. Dined and drank Tea at Mr. Morris's.

Wednesday, 23d. No more States being represented I rid to Gen'l. Miffin's to breakfast. After which in company with him, Mr. Madison, Mr. Rutledge and others I crossed the Schuylkell above the Falls, visited Mr. Peter's,⁴ — Mr. Penn's seat, and Mr. Wm. Hamilton's⁵ [and repaired at the hour of one to the State House].

Dined at Mr. Chew's,⁶ with the wedding guests (Colo. Howard⁷ of Baltimore having married his daughter Peggy). Drank Tea there in a very large circle of ladies.

Thursday, 24th. No more States represented.

¹ Jared Ingersoll.

² On east bank of the Schuylkill, now included in Fairmount Park.

³ William Bingham, merchant. He had been the Continental Commercial Agent at Martinique during the Revolution; was a delegate to the Continental Congress, 1787-88, and Senator in the United States Congress, 1795-1801.

⁴ Richard Peters, Judge of the United States District Court in Pennsylvania; he had been Secretary to the Board of War, of the Continental Congress.

⁵ William Hamilton, a wealthy citizen of Philadelphia.

⁶ Benjamin Chew, wealthy Philadelphian. He owned the Chew House ('Cliveden') at Germantown, the British defense of which lost the battle for the Continentals.

⁷ Lieutenant-Colonel John Eager Howard, of the Second Maryland Regiment. Congress voted him a medal for his bravery at the battle of Cowpens.

Dined, and drank Tea at Mr. John Ross's.¹

One of my Postillion boys (Paris) being sick, requested Doctr. Jones ² to attend him.

Friday, 25th. Another Delegate coming in from the State of New Jersey gave it a representation and encreased the number to seven, which, forming a quorum of the 13, the Members present resolved to organize the body; when by a unanimous vote I was called up to the Chair as President of the body, Majr. William Jackson was appointed Secretary, and a Comee. was chosen consisting of [Mr. Wythe, Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Chs. Pinkney chosen] ³ 3 Members to prepare rules and regulations for conducting the business. And after appointing door keepers the Convention adjourned till Monday, [10 oclock] to give time to the Comee. to report the matters referred to them.

Returned many visits [in the forenoon] today. Dined at Mr. Thos. Willing's, and sp[en]t the evening at my lodgings.

Saturday, 26th. Returned all my visits this forenoon. Dined[where I cd. get an acct. of the Lodggs. of those to whom I was indebted for them] with a club at the City Tavern, and spent the evening at my quarters writing letters.

Sunday, 27th. Went to the Romish Church,⁴ to high mass. Dined, drank Tea, and spent the evening at my lodgings.

Monday, 28th. Met in Convention at 10 Oclock. Two States more — viz. Massachusetts and Connecticut [made nine on the floor] — were on the floor today.

¹ Merchant of Philadelphia.

² Dr. John Jones.

³ George Wythe, of Virginia; Alexander Hamilton, of New York, and Charles Pinckney, of South Carolina.

⁴ St. Mary's, Fourth Street above Spruce. (*Baker.*)

Established Rules, agreeably to the plan brot. in by the Comtee. for the governmt. of the Convention and adjourned [about 2 Oclock]. No Com'ns. without doors.¹

Dined at home, and drank Tea in a large circle at Francis's.²

Tuesday, 29th. Attended Convention, and dined at home. After wch. accompanied Mrs. Morris to the benefit concert ³ of a Mr. Juhan [at the City Tavern].

Wednesday, 30th. Attended Convention. Dined with Mr. Vaughan.⁴ Drank Tea, and spent the evening at a Wednesday evening's party at Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence's.⁵

Thursday, 31st. The State of Georgia came on the Floor of the Convention today, [by the arrival of Majr. Pierce ⁶ and Mr. Houston ⁷] which made a representation of ten States.

Dined at Mr. Francis's and drank Tea with Mrs. Meridith.⁸

JUNE

Friday, 1st. Attending in Convention and nothing being suffered to transpire, no minutes of the proceedings has been, or will be inserted in this diary.

Dined with Mr. John Penn, and spent the evening at a superb entertainment at Bush-hill given by Mr. Hamilton,⁹

¹ Meaning no communications of the proceedings to be given to the outside world. The Convention decided, thus early, that its deliberations should be secret.

² Tench Francis. (*Baker.*)

³ At the City Tavern. (*Baker.*)

⁴ John Vaughan. (*Baker.*)

⁵ John Lawrence, ex-Mayor of Philadelphia. (*Baker.*)

⁶ William Pierce.

⁷ William Houston.

⁸ Mrs. Samuel (?) Meredith.

⁹ William Hamilton. 'Bush Hill' was established by Andrew Hamilton. It was a part of the old Springettsbury Manor. The house which was on Buttonwood Street was burned in 1808. (*Baker.*)

[the owner of it] at which were more than an hundred guests.

Saturday, 2d. Majr. Jenifer¹ coming in with sufficient powers for the purpose, [authorizing one member to represent it; added another State (now eleven)] gave a representation to Maryland; which brought all the States in the Union into Convention, except Rhode Island, which had refused to send delegates thereto.

Dined at the City Tavern with the Club and spent the evening at my own quarters.

Sunday, 3d. Dined at Mr. Clymer's² and drank Tea there also.

Monday, 4th. Attended Convention. Representation as on Saturday.

Reviewed (at the importunity of Genl. Mifflin and the officers) the Light Infantry, Cavalry, and part of the artillery, of the City.

Dined with Genl. Mifflin and drk Tea with Miss Cadwallader.³

Tuesday, 5th. Dined at Mr. Morris's with a large Company and spent the Evening there. Attended in Convention the usual hours.

Wednesday, 6th. In Convention as usual. Dined at the President's (Doctr. Franklin's) and drank Tea there. After which retired to my lodgings and wrote letters for France.⁴

¹ Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer.

² George Clymer, Signer of the Declaration of Independence; member of the Pennsylvania Council of Safety, and delegate to the Constitutional Convention.

³ Daughter of Lambert Cadwalader?

⁴ Letters to the Marquis de Lafayette, Comte de Rochambeau, Comte D'Estaing, and Chevalier de Chastellux, introducing John Rutledge, Jr., then twenty-one years old; the son of Governor John Rutledge, of South Carolina.

Thursday, 7th. Attended Convention as usual. Dined with a Club of Convention Members at the Indian Queen.¹ Drank Tea and spent the evening at my lodgings.

Friday, 8th. Attended the Convention. Dined, drank Tea, and spent the evening at my lodgs.

Saturday, 9th. At Convention. Dined with the Club at the City Tavern. Drank Tea, and set till 10 oclock at Mr. Powell's.

Sunday, 10th. Breakfasted by agreement at Mr. Powell's, and in company with him rid to see the Botanical garden of Mr. Bartram;² which, tho' stored with many curious plts. shrubs and trees, many of which are exotics, was not laid off with much taste, nor was it large.

From hence we rid to the Farm of one Jones, to see the effect of the plaister of Paris, which appeared obviously great. First, on a piece of Wheat stubble, the ground bearing which, he says, has never recd. any manure; and that the Wheat from whence it was taken was so indifferent as to be scarcely worth cutting. The white clover on *this* grd. (without any seed being sown and the plaister spread without breaking up the soil) was full high enough to mow, and stood very thick. The line between this and the herbage around it, was most obviously drawn, for there nothing but the naked stubble, some weeds, and thin grass appeared with little or no white clover. The same difference was equally obvious on a piece of mowing grd. not far distant from it; for where the Plaister had been spread the white and red clover was luxuriant; and but little of either beyond it, and these thin. The soil of these appeared loamy, slightly mixed with Ising-glass and originally had

¹ Indian Queen Tavern, Fourth Street above Chestnut. (*Baker.*)

² William Bartram, son of John, who had established the gardens in 1728.

been good; but, according to Jones's account was much exhausted. He informed us of the salutary effect of this plaister on a piece of heavy stiff meadow (not liable however to be wet) where it transcended either of the two pieces just mentioned in the improvement.

This manure he put on the 29th of October in a wet or moist spell, and whilst the Moon was in its increase, which Jones says (though there certainly can be nothing in it) he was directed to attend to (but this must be whimsical), and at the rate of about 5 bushls. to the Acre. When it is laid in grass land or meadow he advises harrowing, previously to the laying it thereon in order to raise the mould for incorporation.

From hence we visited Mr. Powell's own farm, after which I went (by appointment) to the Hills and dined with Mr. and Mrs. Morris. Returned to the City abt. dark.

Monday, 11th. Attended in Convention. Dined, drank Tea, and spent the evening in my own room [at Mr. Morris's].

Tuesday, 12th. Dined, and drank Tea at Mr. Morris's. Went afterwards to a concert at the City Tavern.

Wednesday, 13th. In Convention. Dined at Mr. Clymer's and drank Tea there. Spent the evening at Mr. Bingham's.

Thursday, 14th. Dined at Major Moore's ¹ (after being in Convention) and spent the evening at my own lodgings.

Friday, 15th. In Convention as usual. Dined at Mr. Powell's and drank Tea there.

¹ Thomas Lloyd Moore. (*Baker.*)

Saturday, 16th. In Convention. Dined with the Club at the City Tavern, and drank Tea at Doctr. Shippen's¹ with Mrs. Livingston's party.

Sunday, 17th. Went to Church. Heard Bishop White² preach, and see him ordain two Gentlemen [into the order of] Deacons. After wch. rid 8 miles into the Country and dined with Mr. Jno. Ross in Chester County. Returned [to town again about dusk] in the afternoon.

Monday, 18th. Attended the Convention. Dined at the Quarterly Meeting of the Sons of St. Patrick,³ held at the City tavn. Drank Tea at Doctr. Shippen's with [the party of] Mrs. Livingston.

Tuesday, 19th. Dined (after leaving Convention) in a family way at Mr. Morris's, and spent the Evening there in a very large Company.

Wednesday, 20th. Attended Convention. Dined at Mr. Meridith's⁴ and drank Tea there.

Thursday, 21st. Attended Convention. Dined at Mr. Prager's, and spent the evening in my Chamber.

Friday, 22d. Dined [in a family way] at Mr. Morris's and drank Tea with Mr. Frans. Hopkinson.⁵

¹ Dr. William Shippen; his daughter Anne Hume married Henry Beekman Livingston. (*Baker.*)

² Bishop William White, chaplain of the Continental Congress, 1787-1801, and the first Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Pennsylvania.

³ The Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick, an Irish Society established in 1771 and numbering among its members the most important and prominent men of Philadelphia.

⁴ Samuel Meredith, delegate to the Continental Congress, 1787-88; Treasurer of the United States, 1789-1801.

⁵ Francis Hopkinson, Signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Saturday, 23d. In Convention. Dined at Doctr. Ruston's¹ and drank Tea at Mr. Morris's.

Sunday, 24th. Dined at Mr. Morris's and spent the evening at Mr. Meridith's [in drinking Tea only] — at Tea.

Monday, 25th. Attended Convention. Dined at Mr. Morris's, drank Tea there, and spent the evening in my chamber.

Tuesday, 26th. Attended Convention. Partook of a family dinner with Govr. Randolph, and made one of a party to drink Tea at Gray's ferry.²

Wednesday, 27th. In Convention. Dined at Mr. Morris's, drank Tea there also, and spent the evening in my chamber.

Thursday, 28th. Attended Convention. Dined at Mr. Morris's in a large Company (the news of his Bills being protested,³ arriving last night a little mal-apropos). Drank Tea there and spent the evening in my chamber.

Friday, 29th. In Convention. Dined at Mr. Morris's and spent the evening there.

Saturday, 30th. Attended Convention. Dined with a Club at [the Coal Spring] Springsbury,⁴ consisting of several associated families of the City, the Gentlemen of which met every Saturday accompanied by the females of the families every other Saturday. This was the ladies day.

¹ Dr. Thomas Ruston.

² Gray's Ferry, on west side of the Schuylkill River, three miles below Philadelphia. Elaborate gardens had been laid out by the proprietors, George and Robert Gray, and the place was one of popular resort. (*Baker.*)

³ The beginning of Morris's financial weakening.

⁴ The club was known as the 'Cold Spring Club.' The meeting-place is presumed to have been in Springettsbury Manor. (*Baker.*)

JULY

[*Sunday*], 1st. Dined and spent the evening at home.

Monday, 2d. Attended Convention. Dined with some of the Members of Convention at the Indian Queen. Drank Tea at Mr. Bingham's, and walked afterwards in the State house yard.

Set this Morning for Mr. Pine who wanted to correct his portrt. of me.¹

Tuesday, 3d. Sat before the meeting of the Convention for Mr. Peale,² who wanted my picture to make a print or Mezzotinto by.

Dined at Mr. Morris's and drank Tea at Mr. Powell's. After which in Company with him, I attended the Agricultural Society at Carpenter's Hall.³

Wednesday, 4th. Visited Doctr. Shovat's [Dr. Chuvet's⁴—Anatomy] Anatomical figures, and (the Convention having adjourned for the purpose) went to hear [at the Calvinist Church] an Oration on the anniversary of Independance delivered by a Mr. Mitchell, a student of Law. After which I dined with the State Society of Cincinnati at Epple's Tavern,⁵ and drank Tea at Mr. Powell's.

Thursday, 5th. Attended Convention. Dined at Mr. Morris's and drank Tea there. Spent the evening also.

¹ The portrait had been painted in May, 1785.

² Charles Willson Peale. This print is described in Baker's *Engraved portraits of Washington*, p. 18.

³ Meeting-place of the First Continental Congress, 1774, Fourth and Chestnut Streets.

⁴ Dr. Abraham Chovet, or Chavet, as he is given in two different directories of Philadelphia for 1785, was then located on Race Street between Second and Third Streets.

⁵ Epples Tavern, No. 117 Race Street. (*Baker*.)

Friday, 6th. Sat for Mr. Peale in the Morning. Attended Convention. Dined at the City Tavern with some members of Convention, and spent the evening at my lodgings.

Saturday, 7th. Attended Convention. Dined [at the Cold Spring] with the Club at Springsbury, [Returned in the evening] and drank Tea at Mr. Meridith's.

Sunday, 8th. About 12 O'clock rid to Doctr. Logan's ¹ near Germantown where I dined. Returned in the evening and drank Tea at Mr. Morris's.

Monday, 9th. Sat in the Morning for Mr. Peale. Attended Convention. Dined at Mr. Morris's and accompanied Mrs. Morris to Doctr. Redman's ² 3 miles in the Country, where we drank Tea and returned.

Tuesday, 10th. Attended Convention. Dined at Mr. Morris's. Drank Tea at Mr. Bingham's and went to the Play.³

Wednesday, 11th. Attended Convention. Dined at Mr. Morris's and spent the evening there.

Thursday, 12th. In Convention. Dined at Mr. Morris's and drank Tea with Mrs. Livingston.

Friday, 13th. In Convention. Dined, drank Tea and spent the Evening at Mr. Morris.

Saturday, 14th. In Convention. Dined at [the Cold Spring] Springsbury with the Club and went to the play in the Afternoon.

¹ Dr. George Logan; his house, called 'Stenton,' was built by his grandfather, James Logan, in 1728. It is still standing. (*Baker.*)

² Dr. John Redman.

³ At the Southwark Theatre. (*Baker.*)

Sunday, 15th. Dined at Mr. Morris's and remained [there all the afternoon] at home all day.

Monday, 16th. In Convention. Dined at Mr. Morris's and drank Tea [at Mr. Powell's] with Mrs. Powell.

Tuesday, 17th. In Convention. Dined at Mrs. House's, and made an excursion with a party for Tea to Gray's Ferry.

Wednesday, 18th. In Convention. Dined at Mr. Milligan's,¹ and drank Tea at Mr. [Mrs. Meredith's] Meridith's.

Thursday, 19th. Dined (after coming out of Convention) at Mr. John Penn the Younger's. Drank Tea and spent the evening at my lodgings.

Friday, 20th. In Convention. Dined at home and drank Tea at Mr. Clymer's.

Saturday, 21st. In Convention. Dined at [the Cold Spring] Springsbury with the Club of Gentlm. and Ladies. Went to the Play [in the Afternoon] afterwards.

Sunday, 22d. Left Town by 5 oclock, A.M. Breakfasted at Genl. Mifflin's. Rode up with him and others to the Spring Mills² and returned to Genl. Mifflin's to Dinner, after which proceeded to the City.

Monday, 23d. In Convention as usual. Dined at Mr.

¹ James Milligan; he became Comptroller of the United States Treasury, under the new Constitution.

² Spring Mill, a short distance below Conshohocken, the Matson Ford of the Revolution. The visit was to inspect the vineyard and apiary of Peter Legaux.

Morris's and drank Tea at Lansdown¹ (the Seat of Mr. Penn). [Returned in the evening.]

Tuesday, 24th. In Convention. Dined at Mr. Morris's and drank Tea, by appointment and partr. Invitation at Doctr. Rush's.²

Wednesday, 25th. In Convention. Dined at Mr. Morris's, drank Tea and spent the evening [at home] there.

Thursday, 26th. In Convention. Dined at Mr. Morris's, drank Tea there, and stayed within all the Afternoon.

Friday, 27th. In Convention, which adjourned this day,³ to meet again on Monday the 6th. of August, that a Comee. which had been appointed (consisting of 5 Members) might have time to arrange, and draw into method and form the several matters which had been agreed to by the Convention as a Constitution for the United States.

Dined at Mr. Morris's, and drank Tea at Mr. Powell's.

Saturday, 28th. Dined [at the Cold Spring Club] with the Club at Springsbury. Drank Tea there, [returned to Mr. Morris's and spent the eveng. there] and spent the evening at my lodgings.

Sunday, 29th. Dined and spent the whole day at Mr. Morris's, principally in writing letters.

¹ 'Lansdowne,' on west bank of the Schuylkill. The house was erected by John Penn, the elder. It became the property of William Bingham and is now included in Fairmount Park. (*Baker.*)

² Dr. Benjamin Rush (1745-1813), Signer of the Declaration of Independence, Surgeon-General and Physician-General to the Continental Army. He was in sympathy with the Conway Cabal.

³ The Convention adjourned July 26th. Washington's recollection of the date was at fault.

Monday, 30th. In company with Mr. Govr. Morris¹ and in his Phaeton with my horses, went up to one, Jane Moore's,² [in whose house we lodged] in the vicinity of Valley Forge to get Trout.

Tuesday, 31st. Whilst Mr. Morris was fishing, I rid over the [whole] old Cantonment of the American [Army] of the Winter, 1777 and 8, visited all the Works, wch. were in Ruins; and the Incampments in woods where the grounds had not been cultivated.

On my return back to Mrs. Moore's, observing some Farmers at Work, and entering into Conversation with them, I received the following information with respect to the mode of cultivating Buck Wheat, and the application of the grain, viz. The usual time of sowing, is from the 10th to the 20th of July, on two plowings and as many *harrowings at least* — the grain to be harrowed in. That it is considered as an uncertain Crop, being subject to injury by a hot sun whilst it is in blossom and quickly destroyed by frost, in Autumn, and that 25 bushl. is estimated as an average Crop to the Acre. That it is considered as an excellent food for horses, to puff and give them their *first* fat, Milch cattle, Sheep, and Hogs, and also for fattening Beeves. To do which, 2 quarts of Buck Wheat Meal, half a peck of Irish Potatoes at the commencement. (to be reduced as the appetite of the beasts decrease or in other words as they encrease in flesh) mixed and given 3 times a day is fully competent. That Buck Wheat Meal made into a wash is most excellent to lay on fat upon hogs, but it must be hardened by feeding them some time afterwards with Corn. And that this Meal and Potatoes mixed is very good for Colts that are weaning. About 3 pecks of seed is the usual allowance for an acre.

¹ Gouverneur Morris.

² Jane Moore owned and occupied 275 acres in Upper Merion Township, Montgomery County.

On my Return to Mrs. Moore's I found Mr. Robt. Morris and his lady there. [Spent the day there fishing &ca and lodged at the same place].

AUGUST

Wednesday, 1st. About 11 oclock, after it had ceased raining, we all set out for the City and dined at Mr. Morris's.

Thursday, 2d. Dined, Drank Tea, and spent the Evening at Mr. Morris's.

Friday, 3d. In company with Mr. Robt. Morris and his Lady, and Mr. Gouv. Morris I went up to Trenton on another Fishing party. [Dined and] Lodged at Colo. Sam Ogden's at the Trenton Works.¹ In the Evening fished, not very successfully.

Saturday, 4th. In the morning, and between breakfast and dinner, fished again with more success (for perch) than yesterday.

Dined at Genl. Dickenson's² on the East side of the River a little above Trenton and returned in the evening to Colo. Ogden's.

Sunday, 5th. Dined at Colo. Ogden's early; [and about 4 oclock set out for Philadelphia — halted an hour at Bristol] after which in the company with which I came, I returned to Philadelphia, at which we arrived abt. 9 Oclk.

Monday, 6th. Met according to adjournment in Con-

¹ Trenton Iron Works.

² General Philemon Dickinson (the brother of John Dickinson) had been major-general of New Jersey militia; delegate to the Continental Congress from Delaware, 1782-83; United States Senator from New Jersey, 1790-93. He died in Trenton.

vention, and received the Rept. of the Committee. Dined at Mr. Morris's and drank Tea at Mr. Meridith's.

Tuesday, 7th. In convention. Dined at Mr. Morris's [drank Tea no where] and spent the evening [at home] there also.

Wednesday, 8th. In Convention. Dined at the City Tavern and remained there till near ten o'clock.

Thursday, 9th. In Convention. Dined at Mr. Swanwick's and spent the Afternoon in my own Room — reading letters and accts. from home.

Friday, 10th. Dined (after coming out of Convention) at Mr. Bingham's and drank Tea there. Spent the evening at my lodgings.

Saturday, 11th. In Convention. Dined at the [Cold Spring] Club at Springsbury and after Tea returned [and spent the evening at] home.

Sunday, 12th. Dined at Bush-Hill with Mr. William Hamilton. Spent the evening at home writing letters.

Monday, 13th. In Convention. Dined at [home] Mr. Morris's, and drank Tea with Mrs. Bache,¹ at the President's.

Tuesday, 14th. In Convention. Dined, drank Tea, and spent the evening at home.

Wednesday, 15th. The same as yesterday.

¹ Mrs. Richard Bache (Sarah, daughter of Benjamin Franklin). Her husband succeeded his father-in-law as Postmaster-General of the Continental Post-Office.

Thursday, 16th. In Convention. Dined at Mr. Pollock's¹ and spent the evening in my chamber.

Friday, 17th. In Convention. Dined and drank Tea at Mr. Powell's.

Saturday, 18th. In Convention. Dined at Chief Justice McKean's,² spent the afternoon and evening at my lodgings.

Sunday, 19th. In company with Mr. Powell rode up to the White Marsh,³ traversed my old Incampment, and contemplated on the dangers which threatened the American Army at that place. Dined at Germantown, visited Mr. Blair McClenegan,⁴ drank Tea at Mr. Peter's and returned to Philadelphia in the evening.

Monday, 20th. In Convention. Dined, drank Tea [at home] and spent the evening at Mr. Morris's.

Tuesday, 21st. Did the like this day also.

Wednesday, 22d. In Convention. Dined at Mr. Morris's farm at the Hills. Visited Mr. Powell's in the [Evening] Afternoon.

Thursday, 23d. In Convention. Dined, [at home and

¹ Oliver Pollock.

² Thomas McKean, Signer of the Declaration of Independence. He was Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Delaware; Speaker of the Delaware House of Assembly; President of that State in 1781, and Chief Justice of the State of Pennsylvania, 1777-99.

³ White Marsh, about twelve miles north of Philadelphia. The Continental Army was at that place at the close of the Brandywine-Germantown campaign, and from here it marched to its memorable winter-quarters at Valley Forge.

⁴ Blair McClenachan, Philadelphia merchant, at this date the owner of the Chew House, at Germantown.

drank Tea there] drank Tea and spent the evening at Mr. Morris's.

Friday, 24th. [Dined at home] Did the same this day.

Saturday, 25th. In Convention. Dined with the Club at Springsbury and spent the afternoon at my lodgings.

Sunday, 26th. Rode into the Country for exercise 8 or 10 miles. Dined [with Mr. Morris] at the Hills and spent the evening in my chamber writing letters.

Monday, 27th. In Convention. Dined at Mr. Morris's and drank Tea at Mr. Powell's.

Tuesday, 28th. In Convention. Dined, [at home and drank Tea there] drank Tea, and spent the evening at Mr. Morris's.

Wednesday, 29th. Did the same as yesterday.

Thursday, 30th. Again the same.

Friday, 31st. In Convention. Dined at [home] Mr. Morris's and with a Party went to Lansdale¹ and drank Tea with Mr. and Mrs. Penn.

SEPTEMBER

Saturday, 1st. Dined at [home] Mr. Morris's after coming out of Convention and drank Tea there.

Sunday, 2d. Rode to Mr. Bartram's and other places in the Country, dined and drank Tea at [Mr. Gray's] Gray's ferry and returned to the City in the evening.

¹ 'Lansdowne.'

Monday, 3d. In Convention. Visited a Machine at Doctr. Franklin's (called a Mangle) for pressing, in place of Ironing, clothes from the wash. Which Machine from the facility with which it dispatches business is well calculated for Table cloths and such articles as have not pleats and irregular foldings and would be very useful in all large families.

Dined, drank Tea, [at home] and spent the evening at Mr. Morris's.

Tuesday, 4th. In Convention. Dined, etca., at Mr. Morris's.

Wednesday, 5th. In Convention. Dined at Mrs. House's and drank Tea at Mr. Bingham's.

Thursday, 6th. In Convention. Dined at Doctr. Hutchinson's ¹ and spent the afternoon and evening at [home] Mr. Morris's.

Friday, 7th. In convention. Dined, and spent the afternoon at home (except when riding a few miles).

Saturday, 8th. In Convention. Dined at [the Cold Spring] Springsbury with the Club, and spent the evening at my lodgings.

Sunday, 9th. Dined at [home] Mr. Morris's after making a visit to Mr. Gardoqui,² [Minister from Spain] who as he says came from New York on a visit to me.

Monday, 10th. In Convention. Dined at [home] Mr. Morris's and drank Tea there.

Tuesday, 11th. In Convention. Dined at home in a large

¹ Dr. James Hutchinson. (*Baker.*)

² Don Diego Gardoqui.

company with Mr. Gardoqui, drank Tea and spent the evening there.

Wednesday, 12th. In Convention. Dined at the President's and drank Tea at Mr. Pine's.

Thursday, 13th. Attended Convention. Dined at the Vice President's, Chas. Biddle's.¹ Drank Tea at Mr. Powell's.

Friday, 14th. Attended Convention. Dined at the City Tavern, at an entertainmt. given on my acct. by the City light horse.² Spent the evening at Mr. Meridith's.

Saturday, 15th. Concluded the business of Convention all to signing the proceedings; to effect which the House sat till 6 oclock; and adjourned till Monday that the Constitution which it was proposed to offer to the People might be engrossed, and a number of printed copies struck off. Dined at Mr. Morris's and spent the evening [at my lodgings] there.

Mr. Gardoqui set off for his return to New York this forenoon.

Sunday, 16th. Wrote many letters in the forenoon. Dined with Mr. and Mrs. Morris at the Hills and returned to town in the Eveng.

Monday, 17th. Met in Convention, when the Constitution received the unanimous assent of 11 States and Colo. Hamilton's from New York (the only delegate from thence in Convention), and was subscribed to by every Member

¹ Vice-President of Pennsylvania, 1785-87.

² City Light Horse; was organized, November 17, 1774. It has a proud record of honorable achievement and is now known as the 'First Troop of Philadelphia City Cavalry.' (*Baker.*)

present except Govr. Randolph and Colo. Mason from Virginia, and Mr. Gerry from Massachusetts.

The business being thus closed, the Members adjourned to the City Tavern, dined together and took a cordial leave of each other; after which I returned to my lodgings, did some business with, and received the papers from the Secretary of the Convention,¹ and retired to meditate on the momentous w[or]k which had been executed, after not less than five, for a large part of the time Six, and sometimes 7 hours sitting every day, [except] sundays and the ten days adjournment to give a comee. opportunity and time to arrange the business, for more than four months.

Tuesday, 18th. Finished what private business I had to do in the City this forenoon, took my leave of those families in wch. I had been most intimate, dined early [abt. 1 Oclock] at Mr. Morris's with whom and Gouvr. Morris I parted at Gray's ferry, and reached Chester [where we lodged] in Company with Mr. Blair, who I invited to a seat in my [Chariot] Carriage 'till we should reach Mount Vernon.

Wednesday, 19th. Prevented by Rain (much of which fell in the Night) from setting off till about 8 oclock, when it ceased and promising to be fair, we departed, baited at Wilmington, dined at Christiana [bridge] and lodged at the head of Elk. At the bridge near to which [I narrowly escaped an ugly accidt. to my Chariot and horses] my horses (two of them) and Carriage had a very narrow escape. For the Rain which had fallen the preceding evening

¹ The miscellaneous papers of the Convention's proceedings were burnt by its own order. The Journal, or Minutes, was excepted, and, together with certain documents, such as the record of votes taken in the Convention and other miscellany, were the papers Washington noted as having received from Secretary William Jackson. These records have survived and are now in the custody of the Library of Congress.

having swelled the water considerably, there was no fording it safely, I was reduced to the necessity therefore of remaining on the other side or of attempting to cross on an old, rotten and long disused bridge. Being anxious to get on I preferred the latter, and in the attempt one of my horses fell 15 feet at least, the other very near following, which had (had it happened) would have taken the Carriage with baggage along with him and destroyed the whole effectually. However by prompt assistance of some people at a Mill just by and great exertion, the first horse was disengaged from his harness, the 2d. prevented from going quite through and drawn off and the Carriage rescued from hurt.

Thursday, 20th. Set off after an early breakfast, crossed the Susquehanna and dined at Havre de gras at the House of one [Colo.] Roger's, and lodged at Skirrett's Tavern 12 Miles short of Baltimore.

Friday, 21st. Breakfasted in Baltimore, dined at the Widow Ball's (formerly Spurrier's), and lodged at Major Snowden's, who was not at home.

Saturday, 22d. Breakfasted at Bladensburgh and passing through George Town dined in Alexandria and reached home (with Mr. Blair) about sun set, after an absence of four Months and 14 days.

The following is a diary of the weather, occurrences on, and management of, my farms; together with the progress of the Crops thereon, during my absence, as taken and reported to me by my Nephw. G. A. Washington.

MAY

Wednesday, 9th. Began to plant Corn in the commn. way at the Ferry on Monday last; nearly finished it to day. The drill corn nearly finished planting at this place. A few fish heads, guts, etca. ordered to be put into some of the Corn hills, to try the effect of them as a manure. Two plows preparing for the planting of Potatoes, Pease, etca., at French's.

At French's the people were still in the swamp at work, and two ploughs breaking up, and the harrow preparing ground designed for Turnips, etca.

At Dogue run, Finished planting the Corn in the small field by French's and began to plant Pumpkins in the angles of the fence around the drilled Corn. 4 plows preparing for Parsnips — I sent to the Shop.

Note. After entering upon the above, it was found that too much time for my convenience, would be required either to insert the report as it had been made, or to make a proper digest of it; and therefore both are declined. The reports must accompany this Volume and be referred to as part thereof, for the purpose of information as above, whilst I continue my own diary from the day on which I returned home.

Sunday, 23d. Mr. Blair remained. Colonels Fitzgerald, Simms, Ramsay and Lyles; Mr. Hunter, Mr. Murray and Mr. Jaylor; and Doctr. Stuart, Mrs. Stuart, and the girls came to dinner: All, except Mr. Blair, Doctr. and Mrs. Stuart, went away afterwards.

Monday, 24th. At the first, the hands were getting out Wheat and Rye; and the Plows were putting in Wheat in field No. 6

At the Next, 4 plows were putting in Rye in No. 6 and the rest of the hds. grubbing in the New Meadow.

At Dogue run the plows were covering Wheat in No. 6 and the other hands employed chiefly in grubbing the Swamp between the upper Meadows.

At Muddy hole the Plows were (3 of them) fallowing for Wheat in No. 4, the other people gathering fodder.

In the Afternoon Doctr. Stuart, Mrs. Stuart and the Girls returned to Abingdon.

Tuesday, 25th. Mr. Blair left this before sunrise in my carriage which carried him to the Junction of the Road at Bogges' where he met the Stage.

After breakfast I rode into the Neck — hands chiefly employed in getting fodder.

Wednesday, 26th. Rode to all the Plantations — the hands at each employed nearly as they were yesterday.

Thursday, 27th. Visited all the Plantations — same employment at each as yesterday. [In the evening Mr. Corbin Washington, his wife and Miss Fanny Ballendine came in.]

Friday, 28th. Rode to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue run, and Muddy hole — engaged in the same work at each.

Mrs. Jenifer came here to dinner.

Saturday, 29th. Rode into the Neck and set Six plows to breaking up the Orchard Inclosure (wch. was an Oat Stubble) for Wheat and grass Seeds, etca.

After Breakfast Mr. Corbin Washington and his Wife, and Miss Fanny Ballindine (who came here on thursday afternoon) [left this] returned, and [in the afternoon]

after dinner Majr. G. A. Washington left this for Fredericksbg.

[*Sunday, 30th.* Mrs. Fanny Washington, Mrs. Jenifer and Nelly Custis and Harriot Washington went up to Abingdon. Colo. Gilpin and Mr. Wm. Craik came to dinner — the latter stayed all Night.] ¹

OCTOBER

Monday, 1st. Mrs. Fanny Washington, and the Children, and Mrs. Jenifer went up to Abingdon.

Colo. Gilpin and Mr. Willm. Craik dined here — the latter stayed all Night.

Rid to all the Plantations — Work at each as usual, except that the Plows at Dogue run were putting in Rye in field No. 6. — North part of it.

Daniel Overdonck and 5 Negro Ditchers went to work at Muddy hole to ditch between fields 3 and 4.

Mr. Craik went away very early this Morning.

Tuesday, 2d. Rid to all the Plantations. Sent 2 plows from French's to Muddy hole — the other two preparing a piece of ground which had been twice plowed before on the side of the Meadow for Rye and grass Seeds. On which 1½ B. of Rye was sown, and therewith on the No. part of the grd. 1½ Bushls. of Sainfoin and 6 lbs. of Trefoil adjoining the Road. The lower part of the gr[oun]d had 2 quarts of Timothy seed sown with the Rye.

Wednesday, 3d. Went up with Mrs. Washington to Abingdon. Dined at Mrs. Herberts in Alexandria on our way.

¹ In transferring this entry from the rough to the finished diary Washington changed the date. (See diary entry for October 1st.)

Thursday, 4th. Dined at Abingdon and came home in the Afternoon. Brot. Fanny Washington with us.

Found two more plows from French's at Work at Muddy hole.

Friday, 5th. Rid to all the Plantations. Having finished sowing Rye at Dogue Run, 22½ Bushels, sent one of the Plows to Muddy hole. The rest of the horses and hands were employed in treading out wheat, the Fodder there being also secured.

Finding it in vain to attempt fallowing the whole of No. 4 for Wheat, I quitted breaking up any more till the whole should be crossed, and accordingly set all the plows to the latter work.

In the Afternoon Mr. Alexr. Donald ¹ came in.

Saturday, 6th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run, and Muddy hole.

At the first, having got out all the Wheat and Rye, the fodder next claimed attention and was accordingly set about.

Colo. McCarty and his wife; Mrs. Craik and [Sally] her daughter, [and two Mrs. Jenifers dined here and retd.] Mrs. Jenifer and Marianne; and Mrs. Ann Jenifer came here to dinner and returned afterwards. Towards evening Mr. and Mrs. Powell of Philadelphia came in.

Sunday, 7th. After breakfast Mr. Donald went away, and whilst we were at dinr. Mr. Bushrod Washington and his wife came in.

Monday, 8th. Rid with Mr. Powell to my Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue run, French's and the Ferry.

Work going as usual.

¹ Of Richmond, Virginia

Tuesday, 9th. Rid with Mr. and Mrs. Powell to view the ruins of Belvoir.

Called on my return at French's where I had begun with grass Scythes (a cradle having been found not to answr.) to cut the Pease which had been sown broadcast. The first sowing of these appeared pretty ripe, and the vines pretty full; the others were quite green; whether this is owing to their being too late sown, or to the drought which kept them back I am unable to determine — to the latter however it is ascribed. In cutting these vines, the Pods of many of them were left without means of getting them up without picking them by hand. Hence it is evident that the surface of the grd. after the Pease are sown ought by rolling and otherwise to be laid quite smooth that it might be raked easily and effectually. Without this many of them will always be lost — left at least on the ground where they would be excellent for fattening weathers which would undoubtedly glean them completely. But [in] this case there should be nothing in the same enclosure that they can injure or destroy. Raked the Pease into small heaps.

Finished ditching up to the lane by the Overseer's house.

Doctr. Griffith [†] came in and stayed all Night.

Wednesday, 10th. Mr. and Mrs. Powell, Mr. Bushrod Washington and wife, and Mr. Griffith going away after an early breakfast, I rid to all the Plantations and found the same work at ea. going forward.

Thursday, 11th. Rid to all the Plantations. Began to sow Wheat and Sainfoin in the orchard in the Neck, the ground being first plowed, then crossed, on which the Wheat was sown and harrowed in with a heavy harrow the way it was last plowed. Then followed the Sainfoin and harrowed in the same way, with the same harrow, so that, on the whole the Oat Stubble had two plowings and two harrowings.

[†] The Reverend David Griffith.

Finding the Pease at Muddy hole riper than the latter sowed ones at French's I ordered the Scythes there to morrow, leaving the greenish for the last to see if they would fill and ripen more.

In the evening Genl. Pinckney² and his Lady came in on their return to South Carolina from the Federal Convention.

Friday, 12th. Genl. Pinckney and Lady going away after breakfast, I rid to Muddy hole, Dogue Run and French's. [—also to the Ferry.]

At the first finding great Waste in cutting the Pease (owing as has been observed to the cloddy and uneven surface of the grd.) I attempted to pull them by hand but found it so tedious as to oblige me to return to the Scythes notwithstanding the loss.

Sent the Plows belonging to French's and Dogue run to their respective plantations.

Saturday, 13th. Rid to Dogue Run, French's, and the Ferry Plantns.

At the two first took an Acct. of the Horses, Cattle and Sheep wch. are as follows, viz.

AT DOGUE RUN.

Horses

		height	age		
Dabster	— a grey	14½	.....	10	} Plougher's Horss.
Columbus	— bay	14	Camp.		
	bay	14½	Ferry		
					..... 3
bro. bay		14½	Camp		} Working Mares..... 5
2d. bodd. Do.		13½			
Milk and Cydr.		14½			
Bay					
Dark bro:					

² Charles Cotesworth Pinckney.

	height	age	
A Bay Mare, stabled at Mans. Ho. last year....	14½	10	} Mares unbroke — or not used,
A Black, blaze face 2 hind feet white.....			
A bay, off hind foot wht.....			
A bla — Snip and Star — 2 hind feet white.....			
From Milk and Cyder.			
Bay. — Stabled last year.	13½	4	
Bay, like her, rather smaller no white.....			
Chesnut — likely.....			
Bay — No white.....		3	
Bay, blaze — near fore and 2 hind feet whe.....			
Sorrel — No white.....		1 11

Bay. stabled last year.....	4	}	3
Grey, breaking.....			
Sorrel — sml. Star.... 2 fore feet light — not whe.....			
	1		

Bay. horse coly sml. Star....	spg.	}	3
Bay. Mare Do. no white.....	Do.		
Yellow bay — blaze face.....	Do.		

Not belongg. to ye Plantn.

Old Partner	}	4
Old Valiant			
Jersey — Mare.			
Augusta — Do. bay			
			In all.... 29

Cattle

Oxen.....	7
Cows.... in the pasture.....	20
at home house.....	2
Mill besides a calf.....	1.... 23

Heifers.....	4 years old.....	I	
	3 years old.....	0	
	2 — Do. — Do.....	5	
	1 — Do. — Do.....	8	
	Calves — (cows).....	11	25
Steers.....	4 years old.....	I	
	3 Do. — Do.....	8	
	2 Do. — Do.....	6	
	1 Do. — Do.....	I	
	Bull Calves.....	6	26
Account brot. over.....			81
Bulls.....	4 yrs old.....	I	
	1 Do. Do.....	I	2
			83
	Calf at the Mill.....	I	
	In all.....		84

1 Steer and 1 Cow, on the M. Meadw. for Sla:

Sheep of all sorts..... 99

AT FRENCH'S

Horses.

The same as had from Robinson, and particularly enumerated and described the 1st day of Jany. last, as registered in the Diary of yt. date..... 11

A Sorrel horse colt last Spring from the Sorrel Mare..... I

In all..... 12

Cattle.

Oxen.....		4
Cows.....	(Includg. the Farmers.....	7
Heifers.....	1 year old.....	I
	Cow calves.....	3
Steers.....	1 year old.....	4
	Spring calves.....	I
	In all.....	20

Sheep..... in all..... 29

At French's sowed a narrow slipe of the grd. off which Pease had been taken next the Meadow Ditch with Wheat. The Wheat was sown on the ground without breaking and plowed in, which it did in a very mellow and pulverized state, although the grd. in common never was drier or harder to work. In short, had the grd. been often plowed it could not have been in a better state of culture than it appeared (as did the whole field) to be in, which evinces, if Pease is not an exhauster, that land cannot be better prepared for an autumnal sowing than by raising a crop of them, previous thereto.

Finished cutting, and putting into small heaps the Pease at Muddy hole.

[*Sunday, 14th.* At home all day. Abt. Noon yesterday it turned very cold and this morning the frost was so severe as to bite the Buckwheat, Pease, Potatoe Vines, Pompions &c. and turn them quite black.]

Monday, 15th. Ordered the Buckwheat to be immediately cut, beginning with that at Dogue run (abt. 12 Acres) which was accordingly done this forenoon (when the frost was likewise severe) before the moisture was off the Straw. Put the Buck Wheat as cut (with scythe and cradle) into small heaps to dry. Note. Whether this grain has std. out too long or not, I am not sufficiently acquainted with the nature of it to decide. There appeared to be as much shattered on the grd. as fully to sow it again, and at the same time there was at least as much Green Seed as had been shed and many Blossoms also on the Straw.

Rid to Muddy hole and into the Neck — took an Acct. of the Horses, Cattle and Sheep at each as follows.

IN THE NECK.

Horses.

			age	
Doctor....	white.....	15 hands....	12	} Plow Horses
Prentis...	dark bay.....	15	16	
Randolph.	grey.....	14½.....	9	
Jack.....	Black.....	15	11	
Grunt....	Bright bay....	14½.....	12	
Pompey...	Dark bay.....	14½.....	9	
Dick.....	Dingy bay....	14½.....	5	
Ranger...	Black.....	14	5	
Diamond..	White.....	14	10	
Possum...	Fleabittn. grey	15½.....	9 10
<hr/>				
Betsey....	Bay.....	14½.....	10	} Work Mares
Fanny....	Black.....	15	11	
Betsey....	Dun.....	13½.....	15	
Kate.....	Brown.....	14	11	
Punch....	Grey.....	14½.....	10	
Jenny....	Grey.....	14	12	
Patience..	Bright B.....	13	15	
Brandy...	Black.....	13½.....	9	
Nancy....	Sorrel.....	14½.....	9 10
<hr/>				
Davys....	M. Bla.....	14½.....	13 1
<hr/>				
A brown or black				} Unbroke Horses
right hind foot white, sml. Star....	14½	..	4 years	
A Black... 13 hds.....	5 yrs. Sml. Star			
A Black... 13 hds.....	3 yrs.			
white all fours.....	blaze face			
A black Colt....	1 year old blaze face,			
right fore foot white and the left hind				
ft. do.				
A Bay gelding....	1 yr. old			} .. 6
no white, handsome				
A Bay Stallion Colt....	Ho.			

A Black...	14 hands	4 yrs. old.....	} [Unbroke Horses cont'd]
A Brown..	13½ Do.	3 yrs,	
	two hind feet white —	right eye wht....	
A Bla:....	13 hands	2 yrs. old	
	Star and right hind foot white	.....
A White..	14 hands,	4 yrs old.....	4
	Horses.....	in all.....	30

Cattle

Oxen.....			8
Cows.....	15 yrs old.....	1	
	12 Do.....	2	
	11 Do.....	1	
	10 Do.....	1	
	9 Do.....	4	
	8 Do.....	3	
	7 Do.....	2	
	6 Do.....	11	
	5 Do.....	4	
	Unknown.....	1	
	At the Mans Ho.....	10.....	40
Heifers.....	4 years old.....	7	
	3 Do.....	3	
	2 Do.....	9	
	1 Do.....	15	
	Calves.....	11.....	45
Steers.....	7 years old.....	4	
	6 Do.....	2	
	5 Do.....	3	
	4 Do.....	2	
	3 Do.....	1	
	2 Do.....	5	
	1 Do.....	4	
	Calves.....	6.....	27

Bulls.....	4 years old.....	1	
	3 Do.....	1	
	1 Do.....	2	4

On the Plantn. to be accounted for 124

Besides the above.

1 Cow and Calf to the Farmer.....	2	
2 Cows and 2 Calves to G. A. W.....	4	6
Fattg. at the Mill Meadow. Steers.....	5	
	Cows.....	3
		8
		14

NOT ON THE PLANTATION

Sheep.

In great Pasture.....	92	
River Ditto.....	83	
Field No. 1.....	24	199

STOCK AT MUDDY HOLE

SEE OTHER SIDE

Horses

Diamond.....	H	
Jockey.....	Do.	
Dobbin.....	Do.	Plow beasts..... 6
Phoenix.....	M	
Jerry.....	D	
Old Fly.....	D	

A Grey Mare, old — with foal by the Jack $13\frac{1}{2}$ hands high
 A bay Mare $13\frac{1}{2}$ hands said to be 8 yrs old — no white
 A bay (brandy) $13\frac{1}{2}$ with foal by the Jack — Slender.
 2 hd. feet white — narrow blaze and Snip —
 8 or 9 yrs old.
 A dark bay — (Jenny) $13\frac{1}{2}$ — 6 or 7 yrs. old and un-
 sightly — a small streak and snip — 2 hind feet white.

- A brown Mare (Simpson) 14 hands — 5 years old.
 A bay — 13½ hands — 7 yrs. old, Slight and unsightly — a small star — 2 hind feet and off fore foot white.
 A Bay — not 13 hands — 7 yrs old with a very dim and sml. Star
 A Grey — 2 yrs old, well grown and strong, but not sightly.
 A Grey — 14 hands — 9 yrs. old Slight.
 A dark brown or black (it was not noted whether Horse or Mare — 2 yrs. old — near fore and hind foot w — very small Star.
 A Sorrel — 1 year old — no wh. sent from the house.
 A Sorrel — 1 year old, blaze face, 4 feet white.
 A Brown spring Colt from Simpson — got in the Woods.

—... 13

- A Bay 2 yrs old — A very dim and small Star but one eye — near fore and off hind foot white — small but tolerably likely.
 A black 2 yrs. old — small and unsightly — no white but the off hind foot.
 A Sorrel — year old Colt from Phoenix — got by Magnolio — No white.
 A year old from brandy — blaze face — 2 hind feet white wall eye, and not sightly.
 A Spring Colt — no white except a very dim Star, small but sightly — got by Magnolio.

—... 5
 In all.. 24

Cattle.

Oxen.....		6
Cows.....	6 yrs old.... 3	
	4 Do..... <u>6</u>	9
Heifers.....	2 Do..... 1	
	1 Do..... 2	
	Calves..... <u>3</u>	6

Steers.....	4 years old... 1	
	3 Ditto..... 2	
	2 Ditto..... 1	
	Calves..... 3	7
Bulls.....	2 yrs. old... 1	
	1 Do..... 3	4
At Mans. House..	Cow..... 1	
	To be accounted for..... 33	
Fatting....	Steers..... 4	
	Cows..... 1	
	In the Mill Meadw..... 5	

Sheep.

Rams.....	1
Weathers.....	3
Ewes.....	17
In all....	21

Finished Sowing the Orchard in the Neck with Wheat and Sainfoin seed — of the first it took [] bushels and of the latter [] bushels. Note. This grd. has been plowed and cross plowed, then Wheat sown and harrowed in with the heavy harrow, then sown with Sainfoin and harrowed in like manner (both the way the ground was plowed last), after which 50 lbs of Trefoil was sown over the whole and harrowed with the double harrows cross the former.

Tuesday, 16th. Rid to the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run and Muddy hole Plantations.

At the former took an Acct. of the Horses, Cattle and Sheep as follow:

Horses.

Note. The Acct. of the Horses being mis-laid, cannot be entered here; but will come in when a fresh one can be taken. See Dec. 15th, 1787.

Cattle

Oxen.....		5
Bulls.....	of 4 yrs. old... 1	
	2 Do..... 1	2
Cows.....	8 years old... 2	
	7 Ditto..... 3	
	6 Ditto..... 3	
	5 Ditto..... 2	10
		<u>17</u>
Heifers.....	4 Years old... 3	
	3 Ditto..... 2	
	2 Ditto..... 2	
	Calves..... 7	14
Steers.....	5 years old... 1	
	4 Ditto..... 3	
	3 Ditto..... 8	
	2 Ditto..... 5	
	Calves..... 2	19
		<u>50</u>
	On the Plantatn. to be Accd.....	

Besides the above

Cows with the Farmr.....	1	
In the Meadw. fattg.....	2	3
Steers Do..... Do.....		1
Oxen.....		2
	Not in care of the Overr.....	<u>6</u>

Sheep

Rams.....	1	
Wethers....	old..... 1	
	Young..... 20	
Ewes.....	<u>19</u>	41

At Muddy hole put the Buck Wh. which was this day cut into very small heaps, and dug the Country Potatoes which measured as follow: from the half Acre of experimental ground (the half of which had received dung — viz. 50 Bushels), viz. The No. Wt. quarter of the Piece, which had been dunged, and was in hills, yielded 4 bushels of eatable, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ which were fit only for seed; the So. Wt. quarter also in hills but not dunged yielded $2\frac{1}{2}$ Eatable, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ Seed. The No. Et. quarter which had been dunged and was in 4 feet drills produced $2\frac{1}{2}$ eatable, and 2 of Seed; And the S. Et. Quarter $2\frac{1}{2}$ eatable, and 2 of Seed — In the whole $11\frac{1}{2}$ of eatable and 11 of Seed. The Potatoes in the dunged part of the ground were much the largest and yielded

	eatable	Seed
from the Hills.....	4 B..	and $3\frac{1}{2}$
In 4 feet Rows....	$2\frac{1}{2}$	2
	<u>$6\frac{1}{2}$</u>	<u>$5\frac{1}{2}$</u>
Undunged, In Hills.....	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{1}{2}$
4 feet Rows.....	$2\frac{1}{2}$	2
	<u>5</u>	<u>$5\frac{1}{2}$</u>
difference....	$1\frac{1}{2}$	
	<u>$6\frac{1}{2}$</u>	<u>$5\frac{1}{2}$</u>

Note. Upon remeasurg. of these after they came to the Mansion House they turned out (heaped measure) only $7\frac{1}{2}$ Bushl. of eatable and $10\frac{1}{2}$ of Seed — Short in the eatable 4 bush., Seed $\frac{1}{2}$ [bush., total $4\frac{1}{2}$] Whether this was occasioned by the difference of measure or theft of the Carter [remains to be discovered] is not certain.

At Dogue Run Treading out; and at French's plowing and filling up Gullies in the New Meadow.

At the Ferry pulling Pease.

Wednesday, 17th. Rid to all the Plantations except the Ferry.

In the Neck cut the Buck Wht. a good deal of which shattered, but perhaps (it is a grain I am not accustomed to) not more than common and therefore I cannot undertake to decide whether it stood too long or not. Finished getting in the fodder at this place (which concluded this business at all the places). Sowed yesterday and to day (Wind preventing it sooner) 50 lbs. of Trefoil on the Wheat and Sainfoin in the Orchard in the Neck, and began to sow at the No. Wt. Corner of this enclosure under furrow the Winter Vetches, crossing by so doing the first plowing, after which a light harrow followed to level the ground.

The Pease in broad cast at French's were much injured by the frost. It was unfortunate they had not been cut a day or two sooner. Note. The ground in which Pease and Buck Wheat are sown ought always to be rolled when it is expected the Crops are to be cut. Without this they can never be got off clean. The Pease however that are left would be fine for the Sheep, and in that case the waste is of no great signification; but in this case there must be nothing else in the enclosure that they can injure.

Thursday, 18th. Rid into the Neck, to Muddy hole and French's Plantations.

At the first doubled the small heaps of Buck Wheat in the Morning whilst the dew was on. Finished plowing, sowing and harrowing in 6 Bushels of the Winter Vetches as mentioned yesterday, and harrowed half a Bushel of red clover seed between the branch which runs from the gate to the spring, and the Road which leads from the gate also to the Quarters and thence into the Creek field.

At Muddy hole finished late in the Afternoon the ditch round the Barn, and Dug the Irish Potatoes in the half Acre of experimental ground (adjoining the $\frac{1}{2}$ Acre of Sweet or Country Potatoes), which being of the red and

white in alternate Rows through the piece, yielded as follow:

	Red	White
In the $\frac{1}{2}$ wch. had been dunged	11	Bushls. and $8\frac{1}{4}$
$\frac{1}{2}$ which had no dung	6	$3\frac{1}{2}$
Total of both sorts	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 17 \\ 11\frac{3}{4} \\ \hline 28\frac{3}{4} \end{array} \right.$	
Difference betwn. the Red and Whe. is	5	
	$4\frac{3}{4}$	
of both together	$9\frac{3}{4}$ Bush.	

All the hands from the House, except the Carpenters, that were employed in the Neck yesterday went to French's to day to assist in securing as many of the Pease there as they could. Great loss by the frost, the Ripe pease opening and sheddg., and the green ones with the vines on which they grew had turned quite black looking like a thing parboiled. Carried the Pease and the Vines which appeared to be cured into one end of the Tobo. House in field No. 1.

In the Evening Mr. Houston and lady and Miss Maria Livingston her Sister came in and stayed all Night.

Friday, 19th. Mr. Houston going away about 10 O'clock I rid to French's, the Ferry, Dogue Run and Muddy hole.

At the Ferry the hands were making a farm pen.

At French's about the Pease as yesterday. The Vines of some of them appeared to me not sufficiently cured.

At Dogue run getting out Wheat and removing brush from the Swamp to the gullies.

At Muddy hole began to ditch between fields No. 1, 2, 3, and 4, and to sow Wheat with a Barrel 6 feet long perforated with holes, strapped round with leather bands in order with intention to drop the Wheat in clumps 6 Inches

Square; but the leather not binding equally alike in all parts, it discharged Seeds from the Sides and sowed it broad.

On my Return home I found a Mr. Dunlap (a West Indian), Mr. Cary, Mr. Donaldson, and Mr. Porter here, who returned to Alexa. after dinner.

Saturday, 20th. No out doors work done this day [on acct. of the Rain].

Sunday, 21st. At home alone.

Monday, 22d. Went up to a meeting of the Potk. Company at George Town. Called at Muddy hole Plantation [to see how a barrel which I had designed to drop 5 or 6 grains of Wheat in clusters at 6 inches equidistant from each other performed, found instead of doing this that it scattered the grains and having no time to alter, I directed it to proceed in that manner till I returned] in my way. Did the business which called the Comy. together, dined at Shuter's Tavern, and returned as far as Abingdon at Night.

Whilst at Muddy hole, finding that the Barrel continued to scatter the Wheat and not having time to try new experiments to alter it, the Season for sowing this grain being far advanced, I directed that it should proceed as it was.

Tuesday, 23d. After a very early breakfast at Abingdon, I arrived at Muddy hole Plantation by 8 oclock, and [finding the alterations which were intended to be made in the barrel were not easy to be effected without some materials of which I was not possessed] took the Band off the Barrell that the grain might drop without interruption from the holes therein. [might sow more regular and thicker broadcast].

Went round by Dogue Run, French and the Ferry Plantation.

At the first getting out Wheat; At the 2d (French's) securing Pease, and At the Ferry Treading out Oats.

Wednesday, 24th. Rid to all the Plantations. In the Neck found that the Sowing of the Orchard Inclosure with Wheat had been compleated on Monday last, and that such parts thereof as have not been already enumerated, have been sown with Wheat alone. The Orchard part had received the Workings already mentioned, as also the part which was sown with the Winter Vetches; the part which had been sown with Wheat and clover, as already mentioned had been plowed and cross-plowed, the Wheat then harrowed in, after which the clover Seed was sown over which a bush passed to scratch in the Seed and level the grd. That part which had Wheat alone had also been plowed, cross-plowed and the Wheat harrowed in.

Ordered the Buck Wheat at every place to be got in and threshed out.

Had that in the experimental gr[oun]d at Muddy hole cut and threshed; yield, exclusive of abt. $\frac{1}{4}$ at the So. Wt. corner of the Sqr. which had perished by, it is apprehended, the lowness of the situation, as follow: $3\frac{3}{4}$ bushls, and $\frac{1}{2}$ a peck, whereof $2\frac{1}{4}$ grew on the dunged part of the half Acre.

At French's, the Pease would be all got in this Night (but with great loss), and

At the Ferry the people were cleaning Oats which were tread out yesterday.

Mr. Richard Lee and his Sister came here in the evening [yesterday].

Thursday, 25th. Rid to all the Plantations in the Neck.

Began with 4 plows to flush plow field No. 6. (in 6 feet Ridges) for Indian Corn and Potatoes next y[ea]r, and began also to draw the Buck Wh. together, and to get up the Hogs at this place for [porke] killing.

At Muddy hole began also to get in, and thresh out the Buck Wheat.

An half acre of the experimental grd. at this place which had been divided into 3 equal parts and planted with the Bunch hominy Beans, of the common hominy bean, and with the small round Pease, yielded as follow: viz. Of the first, which had been gathered before I came home, 3 pecks; of the 2d. (just now gathered) 1 peck only; and of the other, viz. — Pease, the 2d and last gathering of which has just been made, 3 pecks. Note. Each of these thirds contained the 6th of an Acre. Of the experimental half acres there are 3 yet to obtain the crops from: viz. Jerusalem Artichokes (of which out of 1442 hills 417 are missing), Carrots, and Turnips. In the half acre of Irish Potatoes there were 27 Rows, 4 feet apart and 60 in length. These were also missing in places, and more in the undunged than dunged part. Had the Rows been nearer, the Crop would have been greater. Ordered the Irish Potatoes at this place, wch. had been planted under Straw, etca., for experiment to be taken up. Yield as follow: From 400 Sqr. yards laid on Green sward and covd. with St[raw], $3\frac{3}{4}$ Bushls. From 56 sqr. yds. laid on a poor Washed Knowl, gulld., 3 Pecks. From a sqr. made by Fence Rails and raised lair above lair with Straw and Potatoes, $\frac{3}{4}$ of a Peck. From 160 sqr. Yds. laid on grn. Sward and covd. with Corn Stalks 1 Peck.

At Dogue Run the Hands were getting in and threshing out Buck Wheat.

At French's the Hoe people and Cart were filling up gullies, and two plows were at work.

At the Ferry two plows began to break up part of No. 2

for Indian Corn and Potatoes. The rest of the Negroes were measuring and carrying off Oats, Stacking blades, and otherwise securing fodder.

At the Mansion House setting Turnips raised from the Seed sent me by Mr. Young to propagate Seed from.

On my return home found Mrs. Stuart and her two youngest [children] daughters here, and Mr. and Miss Lee whom I had left.

Friday, 26th. Rid to all the Plantations after Mr. and Miss Lee went away.

In the Neck the Buck Wheat was all drawn to a yard in the field for the purpose of threshing, and it was accordingly done and removed to the Barn but not measured. 6 plows at Wk. there to day.

At Muddy hole finished sowing with the barrel, the ground on the left of the Road leading from the gate on the Ferry Road to the Barn, with $18\frac{1}{2}$ Bushls. of Wheat; and thinking this quantity inadequate I had more holes perforated in the Barrel, to sow the other part on the right of the above Road. Got all the Pease into the Barn yard which had been cut down with the Scythes, also the remains of the Buck Wheat.

At Dogue Run gathered into the Farm yard and began to thresh and clean it.

At French's filling gullies and plowing (2 plows) part of field No. 2 which had been left unbroke in the Spring and Summer.

At the Ferry treading out Oats began with 2 plows to break up the lay part of field No. 2.

Saturday, 27th. Went to the Woods back of Muddy hole with the hounds. Unkennelled 2 foxes and dragged others but caught none — the dogs running wildly and being under no command.

Passed through Muddy hole Plantation and returned home by way of Dogue Run, French's and the Ferry.

At the first, sowed in 6 oblong squares at the West end of field No. 4 (on the Wheat just sown), abt. an acre in each, the following grass Seeds: viz. on the *most* Westerly square (being a breadth across the field) and divided as all the others are by a partition furrow, 8 lbs. of Rib grass; Next to this 29 lbs. of Red clover; in the 3d, 2 Bushls. of orchard grass; In the 4th, 20 lbs of Hop clover; In the 5th, four Bushls. of Ray grass; and in the 6th, 2 bushls. of Sainfoin. After sowing these Seeds the ground was first rolled and then harrowed with a bush. The square containing Sainfoin had the Seed first harrowed in with the Wheat over and above what is mentioned to have been done with respect to the others.

At Dogue run finished threshing cleaning and measuring the Buck Wht. wch. amounted to 121 Bushls. from about 12 acres.

At French's cleaned up the shattered Pease and threshed those wch. had been picked off the grd., wch. together amounted to 9 Bushls.

At the Ferry set 3 plows to Work — put the girl Eby to one of them.

The tryal that was made in the Neck of differt. qties of oats to the acre turned out as follow: That wch. had 2 bushls. yielded $8\frac{1}{2}$; 3 Do. — Do. 7; 4 Do. — Do. $5\frac{1}{2}$. The above 3 acres were adjoining each other and as nearly alike as possible in quality of Soil, levelness and other circumstances. The grd. was prepared alike and sowed at the same time.

Sunday, 28th. Went to Pohick Church. Mr. Lear and Washington Custis in the Carriage with me.

Mr. Willm. Stuart came from Church with me and Mr. Geo. Mason Junr. came in soon after [both stayed all Night].

Monday, 29th. Spread, whilst it was raining, 2 Bushels of the Plaster of Paris had from Philadelphia on the So. half of the lawn beyond the break or small fall therein — quantity about half an acre.

After dinner Mr. George Mason went away.

Tuesday 30th. Rid to Muddy hole and Dogue Run in the Morning, but being driven in by the Rain I rode after it ceased to the Ferry, and French's.

At Muddy hole cleaning up the Buck Wheat — 57 bushls. of it only from 18 acres of ground.

At Dogue run 4 plows were at work — the other hands a grubbg.

At French's 2 plows were at Work and the other hands weeding 2 yards for treading out grain.

At the Ferry the 3 plows were at work and the other people grubbing.

Wednesday, 31st. Rid to all the Plantations. In the Neck 6 plows were at Work and two more [were put at it this morning] just added — one of which broke immediately. The other hands were digging Potatoes in the further cut opposite to Mr. Digges in No. 3.

At Muddy hole, finished sowing Wheat on the Right of the Road leading from the gate on the Ferry road to the Barn [with the Barrel] — in which $12\frac{1}{2}$ bushls. of Seed was deposited, and put in as that on the other side was. The hands getting the Remainder of the frost bitten Pease; and taking up those Turnips in the experimental grd. (which, not havg. the tops taken off, being intended for seed) the yield could not be ascertained.

At Dogue run the plows and People were employed as yesterday.

The Ditchers went to French's this Morning.

Mrs. Stuart and her two youngest children and Mr. William Stuart went from this yesterday morning.

NOVEMBER

Thursday, 1st. Rid by the way of Muddy hole (where the People were taking up Turnips to transplant for Seed) to Alexandria to attend a Meeting of the Directors of the Potomack Company, and the Exhibition of the Boys at the Alexandria Academy. Dined at Leigh's Tavern, and Lodged at Colo. Fitzgerald's, after returning abt. 11 at Night from the performance, which was very well executed.

Friday, 2d. After breakfast I return'd home by way of Muddy hole, Dogue run, French's and the Ferry.

At the first three plows were breaking up in field No. 4. The other hands were taking up the Jerusalem Artichokes — qty $58\frac{1}{2}$ bushls. in dunged and undunged eql., the 1st largest.

At Dogue Run all h[an]ds were engaged in treading out wheat.

At French's, except the two plows wch. were at work, they were employed in digging Irish Potatoes, and at the Ferry in treading out Oats.

Rid to all the Plantations. Digging Potatoes at the River, Muddy hole, and French's Plantations, at wch. the Plows were also at work. Treading Wheat at Morris's and Oats at the Ferry.

Sunday, 4th. After Candles were lighted Mr. and Mrs. Powell came in.

Monday, 5th. Mr. and Mrs. Powell remaining here I continued at home all day.

Tuesday, 6th. Mr. and Mrs. Powell crossed the River a little after Sun Rise to Mr. Digges' in order to pursue their

journey to Philadelphia. I accompanied them over, and havg. my horse carried into the Neck, I rid round that and all the other Plantations in my way home.

From the cut of drilled Corn in the Neck next Mr. Digges's there came from every 3d row 45 Bls. of Irish Potatoes. In the next on the River Shore, 38 Bls. from every 4th, and in the 3d by the gate and farm pens 77-7 of wch. red bushls. from every 4 Rows — in all 154. 8 Plows at work here.

At Muddy hole 2 plows breaking up — the driver of the 3d. Will after outlying Hogs. People gathering Potatoes from the 10 acre Stakes, 25 Bushls. of white, and $22\frac{3}{4}$ of Red came from the grd. In all $47\frac{3}{4}$. These grew in every fourth interval between the Corn. Had every interval been planted the quantity probably would have been 190 bushels.

At Dogue run all hands were engaged in cleaning wheat, stacking the straw, etca.

At French's 2 plows were at work and all the other hands were digging Potatoes.

At the Ferry 3 plows were at Work — the Rest of the hands getting Corn from the New grd. in Front of the House. Mr. Rid[ou]t dind. and returned.

Wednesday, 7th. Rid to Muddy hole, Dogue Run, French's, and the Ferry. At the first 2 plows only at work, the other hands getting Corn in the New ground in Front of the Mansion House.

At Morris's 4 plows at Wk., all the other hands were digging Potatoes on the right of the Road — began today. At French's 2 plows were at Work — the rest of the hands were digging potatoes which they finished, [the whole] quantity $84\frac{1}{2}$ Bushls. from 46 Rows, 170 yds. long each.

At the Ferry — the same Work as yesterday.

Majr. Geo. Auge. Washington and his wife returned this evening from Berkley.

Thursday, 8th. Went up to Alexandria to meet the Directors of the Potomack Company.¹ Dined at Mr. Leigh's Tavern and returned in the afternoon.

The Ferry part of the New grd. Corn (in front of the Mansion House) being [all] gathered and measured, turned out as follow. [was found to yield] — Of that wch. was sound 24 Barls., Rotten, $4\frac{1}{2}$, — In all, $28\frac{1}{2}$.

[3 Barls. had been given to the Hogs at this place from the other fields.]

Stopped the Plows at Muddy hole to assist in digging the Potatoes there.

Friday, 9th. Went this day to the back line of my Tract in order to run a Strait line 30 feet within the marked trench for a ditch leaving that space without for a Road [course between Colo. Mason and myself 30 feet within my bounds in order to digg a ditch, and make a Road without it]. Was not able to compleat it. Went to the Ferry, French's and Dogue Run Plantations and returned home by Muddy hole.

At the 3 first the Plows as usual were at work. At the latter the drivers were aiding with the Potatoes.

At the Ferry the hands were husking and securing the Corn they had gathered.

At French's they were grubbing and stopping gullies before the Plows.

At Dogue run they were digging Potatoes.

At Muddy hole the same.

Saturday, 10th. Went again on the business I quitted [was

¹ This meeting was the one on which the Second Annual Report of the Potomac Company was issued, with Washington's signature as President of the Company. The previous meeting (October 20th, 22d, and November 1st) had been held to receive and digest reports of progress of the work done at Great Falls, Seneca, and Shenandoah. Subscriptions had lagged and the stockholders were urged to complete their payments. To the date of this report £10,700, in round numbers, had been paid into the treasury.

upon] yesterday without finishing it. [but could not finish it].

Passed by the Ferry, French's, and Dogue Run Plantations, and returned home by Muddy hole.

At the first, the Plows were at work as usual, and the other hands were digging Potatoes.

At French's they were employed as yesterday but were ordered to remove the trash out of the wet part of the Meadow (that had been grubbed) before it got wet.

At Dogue run only 2 plows were at work — the other hands digging Potatoes.

At Muddy hole all were digging Potatoes.

On my Return home found the Widow Graham and her daughter here, who stayed all Night.

Sunday, 11th. After Breakfast Mrs. Graham and daughter went away. and to dinner came my Nephew Geo. Steptoe Washington and young [a Son of] Mr. McCrae came, and in the evening Colo. Richd. Henry Lee came in.

Monday, 12th. Colo. Lee went away about 11 oclock [after breakfast] and the [2] young men after dinner. I did not ride as usual [today].

Finished digging the Irish Potatoes at Dogue Run in the cut — they began on Thursday last — quantity from every 4th interval between the Corn Rows [of Corn which is on the Right Hand of the Road which leads from the Gate to the House — quantity 120 bushls., whereof 63 were red — the number and length of these Rows and the white being equal]. Red and White were in the Rows alternately.

Tuesday, 13th. Rid to all the Plantations. At the River Quarter [Neck] 8 plows were at work — the rest of the People were gathering beans and threshing out Pease.

At Muddy hole all hands digging Potatoes. Sent the small gang from the [Mansion] House there to assist, and ordered the Ferry People except the Ferrymen and those driving the Plows to go there tomorrow for the same purp.

At Morris's 4 plows were at Work, the other hands, aided by the People from French's were digging Potatoes on the left of the Road leading from the Gate to the Houses.

At French's — two Plows were at Work.

At the Ferry 3 plows were at work. The other hands having finished digging the Potatoes — qty. 41 Bushls. whereof $6\frac{1}{2}$ were red and $34\frac{1}{2}$ White, were picking [gathering] the remainder of the Frost bitten Pease [that they might go to Muddy hole in the Morning].

Wednesday, 14th. Rid to the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run and Muddy hole.

At the Ferry 3 plows were at Work, all the other hands except the Ferry men, had gone [were sent] to Muddy hole.

At French's [treading out Barley] they had got down abt. $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Stack of Barley and were treading of it. finding the weather unsettled ordered that which was tred out and the other part in the Stack to be well covered. The Plow horses to be employed in treading the plows were stopped this day.

At Dogue Run 4 plows were at Work, the other hands about the [digging] Potatoes.

At Muddy hole all hands except the 3 plow people (who were plowing) together with the House people and those from the Ferry were digging Potatoes in No. 1, by the quarter, having yesterday afternoon finished the Corn grd. exclusive of those wch. grew in the 10 acre cut amounted to [the Small gang from the Ho. and the Ferry People assisting. The quantity of Potatoes taken from the remg. part of the Corn ground at this place] $54\frac{1}{2}$ Bls. of Red, and

59 $\frac{1}{4}$ White; [which] and added thereto [to those that came off the 10 acres in the same Corn field] make 84 $\frac{1}{2}$ of White and 77 $\frac{1}{4}$ of Red, in the whole 161 $\frac{3}{4}$ Bushels from every 4th interval between the Corn Rows.

Received this evening the last of the [Irish] Potatoes from the Neck today, [14 $\frac{3}{4}$ bushls] wch. added to those that were brt. over on Saturday make 21 $\frac{1}{4}$ bushls. of Red — and 160 bushls. of white — in all 181 $\frac{1}{4}$ Bushels. Recd. from the same place 56 $\frac{1}{2}$ Bushls. of Barley which grew on about 5 acres near the Barn wch. had been in Turnips last year. Also 31 Bushls. of Pease sound and good; and 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ of Ditto which had been bit with the frost in different degrees — some very bad.

Thursday, 15th. Went to Alexandria to an election of a Senator for the district of Fairfax and Prince William, was accompanied by Mr. William Stuart who with Mrs. Stuart and his Sister came here last evening. Gave my suffrage for Mr. Thos. West who with a Mr. Pope¹ from the other County were Candidates and returned home to dinner through the midst of the Rain from an apprehension that the weather was not likely to abate in the evening.

The last of the Potatoes were brought from the left hand cut at Dogue Run [came home today] making therefrom 113 $\frac{1}{2}$ Bushels; whereof 57 $\frac{3}{4}$ were red, and 56 $\frac{1}{2}$ were white. These added to those on the other side of the Road [leading from the gate to the houses] make 120 $\frac{3}{4}$ of Red and 113 $\frac{1}{2}$ of white — In all 234 $\frac{1}{4}$ Bushels from the 4th Interval of the Corn Rows. The No. acres in Corn may be abt. 57.

In the Evening Mr. Kelly,² the Dancing Master and My Nephew G. Steptoe Washington came in.

¹ The election was for a State Senator of the Third Class. John Pope was elected.

² John B. O'Kelly. (See diary entry for December 28, 1787, *post.*)

Friday, 16th. Remained within doors all day.

Saturday, 17th. Rid to the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run, and Muddy hole.

At the first ground being too wet to Plow I sent them to French's, which was something drier, being lay land.

At the other, cleaning the Barley, aided by some of the Dogue Run people, but was not able to finish it.

At Dogue Run four plows were at work; the other hands were filling gullies before the Plows.

At Muddy hole 3 plows were at Work, the other people and the small gang from the House were digging Potatoes, tho' it was bad doing it on Acct. of the wetness of the earth.

Mrs., Miss Stuart and the Miss Custis, together with Harriot W[ashington] went up to Abingdon; Mr. Kelly and Geo. Steptoe Washington to Alexandria, after breakfast.

Sunday, 18th. Geo: Auge. Washington and his wife went up to Abingdon. To dinner came Mr. Potts, his wife and Brother, and Mr. Wilson from Alexandria, and soon after them Colo. Humphreys. The first company went away after dinner, and in the evening Mr. Corbin Washington came in.

Monday, 19th. Rid before breakfast to the Plantations at French's, Dogue Run, and Muddy hole. Had the Barley at the former fanned, cleaned and Measured — quantity 126½ bushls. from about 9 acres of ground.

At Dogue run, laid down the Barley to tread out.

At Muddy hole digging Potatoes, the hands from the Ferry and small gang from the Mansn. house assisting. The Ploughs would abt. finish breaking up field No. 4 this evening. Mr. Robt. Morris, Mr. Gour. Morris and Doctr. Ruston came in before Dinner.

Tuesday, 20th. Colo. Lyle, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Rumney, Mr. Lowry, Mr. Abernathy, Mr. Monshure, Mr. Nelson, and Doctr. Craik came to Dinner and returned in the evening. Mr. Corbin Washington went away after Breakfast.

Wednesday, 21st. Messrs. Morris's and Doctr. Ruston went away after Breakfast. With the first two I rid a few Miles and then visited my plantations at French's, Dogue Run and Muddy hole on my Return.

At the first, the Ferry Plows were aiding those of the Plantn., their own grd. being too wet, and thr. other hands were assisting the Muddy hole people in digging Potatoes. The Rest of French's hands were filling up gullies before the Plows.

At Dogue Run, 4 plows were at Work — the other hands were fillg. up gullies.

At Muddy hole the Plows (three) only finished breaking up No. 4 last Night, instead of doing it the eveng. before, as I expected. And began this Morning to plow No. 3. The other hands, with those from the Ferry, were about the Potatoes.

In the Neck, finished breaking up field No. 4.

Thursday, 22d. Rid into the Neck and to Muddy hole.

At the first, began to Plow (next the Mouth of Carney's gut) field No. 9, as the first preparation for a Wheaten Crop next fall; to receive in the Meanwhile Buck Wheat and some other fallow Crops. 6 plows only at Work.

At the Plantation at Muddy hole 2 plows only were at Work in No. 3, the third had come down to the House to be repaired; all the other hands, together with those from the Ferry, were digging Potatoes. Examined the squares which I had sowed at this place with grass Seeds; and found that the Red clover, hop. clover, Ray grass, and

orchard grass were all up very thick. None of the Rib grass could I perceive up, and very little if any of the Sainfoin.

The Winter Vetches, Red clovr. and trefoil which had been sowed in the Neck were also up, the two last very thick and well; but I could perceive none of the Burnet, and very little of the Sainfoin above ground.

Friday, 23d. Rid to the Ferry, French's, D. Run and Muddy hole.

At the first, the plows belonging to the Plantation were at Work at French's. The other hands were getting Corn in the flat below the hill in No. 1.

At French's, the Plows were stopped, in order that the Horses might tred out Oats: all hands employed in this business.

At Dogue Run, finished cleaning the Oats raised from the Seed sent me by Genl. Spotswood, from an acre of grd. $41\frac{1}{2}$ Bushels. The remainder of the Barley, $6\frac{3}{4}$ bushls. was brot. from this place, which made the whole raised at it $74\frac{1}{4}$ bushls. — total at all the places $257\frac{1}{4}$ bushls. $3\frac{1}{4}$ bushls. of the black Spelt was brot. home from this place also. 4 Plows were at Work — the other hands (after cleang. Oats) were spreadg. Buck wheat Straw and threshing the common Spelts.

At Muddy hole 3 plows were at Work; the other hands, belonging to the Plantation, were digging Potatoes, which they finished doing about Noon. These have not been measured but spread in the Barn that they might get dry and be sorted. Note. The digging of Potatoes has been too long postponed this fall. The proper season to do this Work in, is, as soon as the top dies, and before it becomes so dry as to fall. At so late a Season the earth is wet, clings to the Potatoes; makes them very dirty, and difficult to dry; from whence many are spoiled without much trouble,

and attention. Note also. It is too late, where there are not Barns, on the floors of which grain can be threshed dry and with safety, to have Wheat, Oats, or other Crops of this kind remaining in the straw. Dirt yards, on which they are tread, get damp; and much grain is buried in the earth. To keep them from freezing is not only troublesome, but difficult; and the frequent rains which fall at this Season, are not sufficiently counteracted by the Sun to prepare them for use before they are endangered by a repetition of more.

Saturday, 24th. Rode to the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run, and Muddy hole Plantns., also to the Carpenters in the Woods.

At the Ferry, the Plows were, as yesterday, at work at French's. The other hands were husking and lofting of Corn, and gathering Beans.

At French's all hands and Horses, were treading out oats.

At Dogue run, 4 plows were at Work. The Rest of the People were threshing and cleaning the common Spelts — qty. $35\frac{1}{2}$ Bushls., which were left there for the use of the Plantation Horses.

At Muddy hole, 3 plows were at work. The other hands were gathering and husking of Corn, and sorting the Irish Potatoes.

Mrs. Lee¹ (wife of Colo. Henry Lee) came here to dinner, and in the Afternoon he and Judge Harrison of Maryland arrived.

Mr. Lear went up to Alexa. to day on my business

Sunday, 25th. Colo. Simms, Mr. Porter, and young Mr. Bowen came here to dinner, and returned afterwards.

Monday, 26th. Colo. Lee and his lady, and Colo. Harrison

¹ Matilda, daughter of Philip Ludwell Lee.

going away after breakfast, I rid to French's, Dogue Run, and Muddy hole.

At the first, 2 plows were at Work; the other hands were cleaning oats.

At Dogue Run, all hands were engaged in getting out oats, for which purpose the Plows were stopped.

At Muddy hole 3 plows were at Work; the other hands were gathering Corn.

Three plows were at Work at the Ferry. Mrs. Jenifer, Sr. came here.

Tuesday, 27th. Rid to the Plantations in the Neck, Muddy hole, Dogue Run, French's and Ferry. At the first, gathering and Measuring Corn — the whole produce of field No. 3 amounted to no more than [] Barrls. 6 plows were at Work.

At Muddy hole, 3 plows were at Work — the other hands gathering Corn and husking it.

At Dogue run 4 plows were at Work. The other hands were cleaning the oats which had been tread out yesterday.

At French's 2 plows were at Work. All the other hands were cleaning oats.

At the Ferry 3 plows were at Work. All the Rest of the hands were gathering and husking Corn.

Wednesday, 28th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue run and Muddy hole.

The Plows were at Work at all of them till abt. 10 oclock when they were stopped by Rain — as all other out doors work was.

Thursday, 29th. In Company with Colo. Humphreys, Majr. Washington and Mr. Lear went a hunting. Found a fox about 11 oclock near the Pincushion, run him hard for near 3 quarters of an hour and then lost him.

Mr. Lund Washington who joined us, came and dined with us and returned afterwards.

Passed through Muddy hole Plantation. 3 plows were at Work, the other hands were gathering and husking Corn.

Friday, 30th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue run and Muddy hole.

At the first, three plows were at Work in field No. 3, Number 2 being too wet to plow. The rest of the hands were gathering and husking Corn.

At French's 2 plows were at Work. The other hands were filling gullies before the Plows. The last load of Oats from the stack which had been tread were brot. to the Mansion house from this place — qty. $287\frac{1}{2}$ bushls. from this stack.

At Dogue run 4 plows were at Work. The other hands were making drains to let of the water (wch. was ponding in wet weather) from fields No. 4 and 6, now in grain. Brot. the last of the Oats from this place which grew in the ground (abt. 25 acs.) that was Winter-fallowed in No. 1, adjoining the Ferry Road — qty. $139\frac{1}{2}$ Bushls. All these last mentioned oats, were deposited in the Seed loft, over the Green Ho[use.]

At Muddy hole 3 plows were at work. The other hands were gathering and husking Corn.

Mrs. Jenifer went away about Noon.

DECEMBER

Saturday, first. Went with Colo. Humphreys, Majr. W[ashington] and Mr. Lear a fox hunting. Found a fox abt. 9 oclock and run him hard till near 10 and lost him.

Passed through Muddy hole Plantation, and returned through those of Dogue Run, French's, and the Ferry after the Hunt.

At the first, 3 plows were at Work. The other hands were gathering and husking Corn.

At Dogue Run, all hands (Plows being stopped) were treading out Oats.

At French's the same.

At the Ferry 3 plows were at Wk. in No. 3. The other hands were gathering and measuring Corn.

Sunday, 2d. At home all day. Mr. G. W. Lewis and Geo. Steptoe Washington, who with Mr. Wm. Booth came here yesterday to dinner, returned this afternoon to their respective homes.

Monday, 3d. Mr. Booth going away after Breakfast, I rid to all the Plantations.

In the Neck 6 Plows were at Work. All the other hands were gathering and husking of Corn.

At Muddy hole 3 plows were at Work — the other hands gathering and husking of Corn.

At Dogue Run 4 plows were at work, the rest of the force were clean[ing] the Oats which were tread out on Saturday last.

At French's all hands were treading the remainder of the Stack of Oats which were begun on Saturday.

At the Ferry 3 plows were at Work in field No. 2. The other hands were gathering and husking Corn.

On my Return home found a Mr. Jones¹ of No. Carolina, and Doctr. Craik here. The former stayed all Night, the latter returned to Alexandria.

Tuesday, 4th. After Mr. Jones went away, I rid to the Ferry, French's Dogue run and Muddy hole Plantations.

At the first 3 plows at Work in field No. 2. The other

¹ Allen Jones, State Senator of North Carolina, 1784-87. He had been a delegate to the Continental Congress, 1779-80.

hands finished measurg. the Corn, q[uan]t[it]y as follow. 24½ frm. New grd., 7 frm. drilled do., 17 frm. Stony hill, and 20 frm. flat — in all 68½ sound, besides 3 picked up in diff. fields, and soft Corn 22 Barrls.

At French's two plows began to Work abt. 11 oclock. The other hands were cleaning Oats.

At Dogue run 4 plows were at Work. The other hands were gathering and husking of Corn.

At Muddy hole 3 plows were at Work. The other hands had just finished husking and measuring Corn — q[uan]t[it]y 30 Barrls. sound and 11 Hog Corn — 7 Rotten; of which 9 Barrls. of the first and 1 of the other grew on the first 10 acrs. next the experimental Squares. A large proportion of the Corn at all my Plantations is soft and rotten this year.

Turned every species of Stock of my Clover at Muddy hole and the five Acre lott in the Neck.

Took up some Turnips for Table use today at Muddy hole.

Wednesday, 5th. Went out, in Company with Colo. Humphreys, with the hounds after we had breakfasted. Took the drag of a Fox on the side of Hunting Creek near the Cedar gut, carried it through Muddy hole Plantation into the Woods back of it, and lost it near the Main Road.

After which I went to Muddy hole, Dogue Run, French's, and the Ferry Plantations.

At the first (Muddy hole) 2 plows only were at work; the third being at the Shop. The other hands, after securing their Corn in the Barn, began to dig the Carrots in the (quarter of an Acre of the) experimental ground.

At Dogue run, the Corn in the East cut of field No. 4, measured 27 barrls., and that which grew in the Small field by French's, measured 15 barrls of sound Corn. The Plows were stopped, and all hands were employed in treading out

the only remaining Stack of Oats. The last stack turned out 129 bushls.; $37\frac{1}{2}$ of wch. came to the Mansn. Ho. and $91\frac{1}{2}$ remd. for the Plantn.

At French's 2 plows were at Work, the other hands were employed in cleaning Oats.

At the Ferry, three plows were at Work. The other hands were cleaning the tailings of wheat and threshing out Pease.

Thursday, 6th. Rid to all the Plantations. In the Neck, finished husking and Measuring the Corn in the South part of field No. 9 — quantity [] Barls. including what had been given to the Hogs. Plows were stopped in order to tread a Stack of Oats wch. grew in the No. Et. part of field No. 2. The hands engaged in this work and housing the Corn.

At Muddy hole finished digging the Carrots which grew on the half of the half acre of experimental grd. (the other half thereof, had been sowed with Turnips, and taken up by mistake without measuring, or weighing) — that part of the grd. which had received the usual quantity of 50 bushls. of dung (to the *half* acre) produced 12 Bushls. of Carrots; and the other part of the ground which had not been dunged yielded 12 Bushels. In the size of the Carrots there was but little difference. In both they were short, and *mostly* forked; many of them however were thick. Three plows were at Work. In one I put the She Mule which worked very well. The horse Mule is intended also for this Plantation.

At Dogue Run 5 plows were at Work. Moll, with the old dray Mare, and another Mare bot. for me by Mr. Muse¹ were set to this business.

The other hands were cleaning Oats and threshing Pease.

¹ Battaile Muse.

At French's two Plows were at Work — the other hands cleaning oats.

At the Ferry 3 plows were at Work in field No. 2. The other hands after finishing cleaning the tailings, Pease and Beans were employed in getting the Cedar Berries. The quantity of Sound Pease *only* amounted to $3\frac{1}{2}$ Bushls., and the Beans to $1\frac{1}{4}$ Bushls. 54 Pumpkins were sent from this place to the Mansion Ho. for the Cows.

Taking up Turnips, at Dogue Run by the small gang from the Mann. House. Three Men from Do. cutting broom straw for litter.

Friday, 7th. Visited all the Plantations. In the Neck 5 plows only were at work — not more through the week. Finished cleaning and measurg. the Stack of Oats wch. was tread out yesterday from the Eastermost cut of field No. 2. — quantity 109 bushls. from about 8 acres of grd. After this all hands were employed (except those with the five plows) in gathering Corn.

At Muddy hole two plows only were at Work — the 3d. at the Smith's Shop. Measured the $\frac{1}{4}$ of an acre of Carrots which were taken from the experimental ground — quantity 24 Bushls., half of wch. was from the undunged part, and of equal quality with those which grew on the dunged part (as noticed yesterday). Dug those which grew on the first 10 acres of Corn, adjoining to the experimental grd. (in every 4th Corn Row); these were of the Orange sort, and *very large*, but a good deal Missing — quantity 22 bushels. The 4th Rows which had been in Irish Potatoes and had yielded $47\frac{3}{4}$ bushls. as appears by the entry on the 6th of last Month which makes the difference of $25\frac{3}{4}$ bushls. in favor of the Potatoes, wch. were much less missg.

At Dogue run, 4 plows only were at work; the other hands, after cleaning the Oats and putting them away,

quantity 96 bushls.; threshed, cleaned and sent to the Mansn. house the Pease: viz. $14\frac{1}{2}$ bushls. of sound, and 6 ditto of frost-bitten ones.

At French's, 2 plows were at Work, the other hands cleaning of Oats.

At the Ferry, 3 plows were at work; other hands preparing and littering the Farm pen and doing other Jobs.

Saturday, 8th. Went a hunting after breakfast; about Noon found a fox between Muddy hole and Pincushion, which the Dogs run for some time in Woods, thro which there was no following them; so whether they caught, or lost it is uncertain.

I returned home by way of Dogue Run and French's.

At Dogue Run 5 plows were at Work, 3 Men were felling timber for Rails to inclose field No. 7. The rest of the hands were getting in and husking Corn.

At French's 2 plows were at Work. The other hands, after cleaning and sending to the Mansion House the Remainder of the Oats which had been tread out from the 2d. Stack (quantity $287\frac{3}{4}$ bushels and which made the whole yield of field No. 5. wch. had been in Oats, amount to 33 acres, $575\frac{1}{4}$ bushels — or $17\frac{1}{2}$ bushls. to the acre) were employed in preparing and covering the yard at the Tobacco house in order to tread out the Wheat and Oats there.

At Muddy hole the Remainder of the Carrots in the other 10 acres (sowed with Seed from the Mansion House) were dug and measured — yield 6 bushels only. These were very much missing, and of an inferior quality, to the orange — much so in point of size.

Sunday, 9th. Colos. Fitzgerald and Gilpin, Captn. Conway, Mr. Herbert, Mr. Hartshorne and Doctr. Craik, Junr., came here to Dinner and returned afterwards.

Monday, 10th. Rid to all the Plantations. In the Neck, gathering and husking Corn with all the hands till the plows could work.

At Muddy hole began to put up the Fence between fields No. 3 and 4.

At Dogue Run gathering and husking Corn — 5 plows at Work.

At French's all hands treading Wheat — plows stopped for this purpose.

At the Ferry 3 plows were at Work. The other hands were getting up, taking an acct. of the Stock and Tools previous to Hezekiah Fairfax's¹ leaving the place. Afterwards grubbing in the Slash between this Plantan. and French's.

This day agreed to give the two Brothers of Cornelius McDermot Roe 20 guineas as Ditchers or labourers till the 1st of Novr. next, the Younger of the two to Work at Bricklaying when Cornelius is so employed.

Tuesday, 11th. Rid to Muddy hole, D[ogue] Run, French's, and the Ferry Plantns.

Too hard frozen the ground to Plow any where.

At Muddy hole fencing.

At Dogue Run cutting Rail Stuff with the Men — Women husking Corn.

At French's Treading out the Remainder of the Wheat.

At the Ferry grubbing in the Slashes mentioned yesterday.

In the Evening Mrs. Bushrod Washington (brought by my Chariot from Colchester) and Mr. Fendal, came here.

Wednesday, 12th. No plowing any where today.

Mr. Fendall going away after breakfast, Mrs. Washington, Mrs. Bushrod Washington, Colo. Humphreys and myself dined at Mr. Lund Washington's.

¹ Hezekiah Fairfax, overseer at the Ferry Farm.

At the Ferry, grubbing in the Swamp as yesterday.

I rid by the Ferry, French's, and Dogue run Plantations as I went.

At French's cleaning up the Wheat that had been tread out.

At Dogue run, after finishing husking Corn, the Women were employed in cleaning up the swamp in the Meadow above the Houses.

Killed the following Hogs to day viz.

from the Neck	22	weight	3119
Ferry	23	Do.	3000
Dogue Run	21	Do.	2498
Muddy hole	17	Do.	1594
Total.....	83	.....	10211
Also at the Mill	7	Do.	1166
Together.....	90	.....	10377
Out of these the Miller recd.			599
Bishop 100 and R. B. Walker ¹ 100...			200
Remain.....			799

The last Potatoes having been brought home from Muddy hole, from the grd. by the Quarters, the qty. in that piece amounted to $275\frac{3}{4}$ Bls. and makes the whole from that Plantation 468 Bushls.; from all the Plantations, $997\frac{3}{4}$ Bushls., whereof 409 Bushels of large white, $153\frac{1}{2}$ bushls. of large red, 216 bushels of Small White, and 60 bushls. of small Red, were put into the Cellars. The difficiency have been made use of and got insured and were given to the Cows.

Thursday, 13th. Rid to all the Plantations except the Neck.

Ground too hard froze to plow at any of them.

At the Ferry, all hands grubbing the Swamp, except 1 Man getting stakes for fence.

¹ Richard B. Walker, butler at Mount Vernon.

At French's all hands cleaning Wheat. Cornelius and his two brothers began to deepen the parting ditch betwn. this Plantation and the ferry.

At Dogue Run the women were digging Carrots — grd. very improper for it, being hard froze, and wheat hurt by it. Men cutting Rail timber except those who were at the Mansn. House abt. the Hogs.

At Muddy hole, the Men being employed at the Mansn. house abt. the Hogs, the women were cutting Corn Stalks.

Friday, 14th. Rid to all the Plantations. The grd. continuing hard froze all day an entire stop was put to plowing.

At the River Plantation, all hands were employed in gathering, husking and housing Corn.

At Muddy hole, the people were employed in putting up fencing.

At Dogue Run the Men were cutting and Mauling Rails — the Women grubbing in field No. 5. Ordered them to French's to morrow to clean out the Meadow, before the wetness of it shall put a stop to it.

The Corn in the left hand cut	Barrls.
measured, of sound.....	22
The Right hand ditto.....	27
The New grd. by French's.....	<u>15</u>
Total.....	64

The Carrots brot. from thence measured [] Bushels. One Row remains undug.

At French's, finished cleaning the Wheat and sent it to the Mill — qty. $47\frac{1}{2}$ Bushls. besides tailing which were brot. to the Mansn. House [] bushels.

At the Ferry, all the Women were grubbing.

In the evening Messrs. Rumney, Manshur and Porter came down.

Saturday, 15th. No plowing.

A little after Sun rise, in company with the Gentlemen

who came yesterday, Colo. Humphreys, Majr. Washington and Mr. Lear, went a hunting; but did not get a fox on foot, nor is it certain we ever touched on the trail of one. The Gentlemn. and Lund Washington (who joined us) came home to dinner, and returned home afterwards.

The acct. of the horses at the Ferry Plantation, which had been mislaid (after taking it the 16th of Octr. is as on the other side.

	yrs. old	
A bla. horse, Prince, 15 hds. high a strick of wh: down the face.....	20	Horses
A bla. horse, Dick, 14 hands, Star in the forehead.....	unkn.	
A Small bay Mare Kitty, 13 hands Star in her forehead.....	13	
A bla. Mare, Nancy, 14 hands, Small Star left forefoot white.....	17	Working Mares
A Grey Mare, Peggy, 14 hands,.....	14	
A Sorrel, Do. Bonny, 14 Do. Star in her forehead.....	14	
A Grey Do.... Fly, 13½, black legs.....	9	
A Black horse 13 hands.... 3 yrs. old next spring — small Star.... dam Nancy — Sire Robinson's horse.....		
A bla. Ditto.... 3 yrs. old in the Spring, blaze face, white nose, and two hind feet white.....		
A bay horse 13½ hands, 4 years old next spring..... dam dead, Sire Leonidas.....		
A Bay Mare.... 12½ hands, 3 yrs. old next spring.... black legs — dam Kitty — Sire the dray.....		

Monday, 17th. Rid to the Ferry, French's, and Muddy hole Plantations.

No Plowing any where.

A hand from each Plantation sent to the Mansn. Ho. to

cut wood for Christmas, the Carts from the Ferry, French's and Dogue run accompanying them in order to draw it in, and to carry out dung.

At the Ferry the Women were grubbing the Slash.

At French's they were getting out Oats.

At Dogue Run, except the Men who were at home, getting Rail timber, the rest were at French's cleaning the Meadow as they had been on Saturday, agreeably to the order given on Friday.

At Muddy hole the Women were fencing between fields No. 5 and 6.

On Saturday last brot. home the 2 Maltese Jennys, and 2 Mules, one from the bla: dray Mare at D. Run, the other from a Grey Mare at the Ferry. Also the 2 Stallion Colts from the Neck — to Winter. The Bullocks which had been in the Mill Meadow and intended for Stall feeding, 6 in number, were brot. home to their Racks this day also.

Tuesday, 18th. Rid to the Ferry, French's, and Muddy hole.

At the first grubbing the Swamp or slash.

At French's Treading out Oats.

The hands from Dogue run cleaning up the Meadow at this place as yesterday.

At Muddy hole fencing.

Finished gathering, husking and Housing the Corn at the River plantation, qty. as follow:

	Sound barrls.	Soft or Rotten Barrls.
From field No. 3 — drilled	92½	8
Wood cut — 9	17	2
Old gate Do. Do.	86½	17
Next Wms. do.	8	6
New gate cut Do.	93½	49
East cut do.	44	48
	<u>341½</u>	<u>130</u>

Of the above sound Corn
290 was Housed; the rest
eaten by Hogs etca.

Crop at Muddy hole.....	30	.....	18
Ferry.....	71½	.....	22
Dogue Run.....	64	.....	unknown
Total.....	507	.....	170

Wednesday, 19th. Rid to all the Plantations. At the Neck Men getting Posts for Fencing, and some, with the Women, covering and getting Farm pen in order brought the (waggon here to assist in getting the Wood).

At Muddy hole the people were fencing.

At Dogue run, except those who were Mauling and cuttg. Rails they were cleaning the Meadow at French's as yesterday.

At French's, on acct. of the weather, no oats were tread out to day, but those which had been tread out were cleaning up.

At the Ferry cleaning up the Swamp which had been grubbed.

Thursday, 20th. Rid to the Ferry, French's and Muddy hole Plantations.

At the first, the People having cleaned up the slash or swamp, they were directed to level the ditch in No. 2 (which formerly divided this Plantation from French's) and to grub on the sides of it. Ordered 4 of the fatting hogs from hence to the Mansn. Ho. to be Slaughtered, 1 sow which appeared to be with pig to be turned out for a breeder, and 3 to be left for the Farmer.

At French's all the hands that were at home were employed in Treading out Oats. At this place also. In the Meadow the D. Run people were at Work and would finish

the Meadow — that is taking out the Trees which had fallen and other trash.

At Muddy hole Fencing as yesterday — the partition between fields No. 4 and 5 would be compleated to day; that between fields 3 and 4 was so yesterday.

Ordered the remainder of the Hogs, except 3 for the Overseer to be brot. to the Mansion Ho. this evening to be Slaughtered.

The Ditchers went to cut a ditch between fields No. 1 and 4 at French's; but having a fence which was on the line to remove previous thereto, they would scarcely enter thereon to day.

Friday, 21st. The frost since it set in being a continued one, has stopped all plowing. The ground quite dry and Roads dusty.

Rid to Muddy hole, Dogue run, French's, the Ferry Plantatns.

At Muddy hole began to fence between No. 1 and 2. Brought two sorrel Colts from thence, rising two Mag-nolio's.

At Dogue Run, the people having finished the Meadow at French's yesterday, were (the Women, the Men getting rails) employed in cleaning their own Meadow.

Counted all the Stock at this place and brot. to the Mansn. House to be wintered, 8 Mares with fold, 2 Sorrl. Colts Rising two, a young bay mare rising three — a young bay horse for Washington Custis, and the Chariot horse Partner.

At French's all the hands that were at home, cleaning Oats; and that this business might be dispatched, I sent 4 hands from the Ferry to work a 2d. Fan.

At the Ferry the Women were levelling the Ditch in No. 2 ordered to be done yesterday.

Killed the following Hogs today:

From the Neck.....	18	weight 1650
Ferry.....	4	<u>355</u>
		1985

Disposed of them as follow:

Thos. Bishop and F. Green.....	800	
Richard B. Walker.....	152	
Overseer Morris.....	300	
Ditto at French's.....	300	
Ditto at Muddy hole.....	228	
Carpenter Isaac.....	202	
	<u>1982</u>	....

Overseer Day retained 3 of his Hogs, agreeably to orders, as did the Farmer at the Ferry. The first weighed 311 lbs: of the weight of the latter, if killed, no acct. has yet been rendered. The 2 reserved by him when the first hogs came from the Ferry weighed 243 lbs.

The General acct. stands thus:

Early killg. from the Mill	hogs	
Novr. 12th.	7.....	1342
2d. Killing, 12th Instt. viz.		
including 2 to the Farmer	92.....	11620
3rd. Killing, exclusive of		
3 left for him and includg.		
3 left for Davy	<u>25.....</u>	<u>2286</u>
	124.....	15248

Disposed of to the Ovr.
and others pr. the fore-
going accts.

Remaing. for Famy.

2536
12712

Saturday, 22d. After our usual breakfasting Colo. Humphreys, Majr. Washington and myself, with Mr. Lear, went out with the hounds. Dragged up the Creek to the

Gum Spring and then the Woods between Muddy hole, Dogue Run and Colo. Mason's Quarters without touching on the trail of a fox.

I visited the Plantations (in going out and coming home) except the Neck.

At Muddy hole the people were making the fence they were upon yesterday.

At Dogue run cleaning the Swamp as yesterday.

At French's cleaning Oats, and the Women except the four which were at work at French's were grubbing in the swamp as before.

Mr. Snow came here.

Wednesday, 26th. Mr. Snow returned to Alexandria. Colo. Humphreys, the Gentlemen of the family and myself went out with the hounds but found nothing, tho much ground was gone over. G. and L. W. came [*unfinished entry.*]

Thursday, 27th. Mr. Lund Washington and his wife and Miss Nancy Stuart came here to Dinner. The latter remained.

Friday, 28th. Went out with the hounds to day. Took the drag of a fox within my Muddy hole Inclosures, and found him in Stith's field (lately Herbert's) run him hard about half an hour, came to a cold drag and then lost him.

Mr. William Craik and his Sisters Marianne and Nancy — and Mr. O'Kelly ¹ the Dancing Master came to Dinner and stayed all Night.

Saturday, 29th. Rid (the hollidays being ended) to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run and Muddy hole.

¹ John B. O'Kelly.

At the Ferry the Men were getting Stakes for fencing, and the women levelling the ditch in field No. 2.

At French's all hands were cleaning Oats.

At Dogue Run 5 Men were cutting and Mauling Rails and the Rest cleaning up the Swamp between the Meadows.

At Muddy hole the People were about fencing, except 1 Man getting Stakes for Do. and 3 after Noon plowing.

Doctr. Craik and Mr. Roger West came to Dinner; and in the evening, with Mr. Wm. Craik and the two girls, returned; but the Postillion boy Paris getting his jaw bone broke by the kick of a horse, the Doctr. was pursued and brought back after he had got as far as Darrel's hill.

Sunday, 30th. Doctr. Craik and Mr. O'Kelly went away after breakfast, and abt. 11 O'clock Mr. Paradise ¹ and his Lady, lately from England but now of Williamsburgh, came in on a visit.

Monday, 31st. Mrs. Stuart and Miss Nancy Stuart went to Mr. Lund Washington's. I remained at home all day. Mr. Chs. Lee came here to dinner and stayed the Night.

¹ John Paradise (1743-95), born at Salonica of an English father and a Greek mother, was celebrated as a linguist and a member of Dr. Johnson's circle in London. The entertaining particulars of his wife, who was Lucy, daughter of Philip Ludwell (1716-67), of Greenspring, contained in the notice of Paradise in the *Dictionary of National Biography*, are supplemented by picturesque details of her life at Williamsburg in 1805 in *Sally Cary* (1916), p. 77.

1788

January 1–December 31

Original in the Library of Congress

This year is entered in three note-book volumes, beginning in No. 35 (in which is included January 1–April 17, *see* List, vol. 1, p. xvii) and ending in No. 37 (which also includes January 1–February 2, 1789).

1788

JANUARY

Tuesday, 1st. Mr. Lee returned to Alexandria after breakfast, as Mrs. Stuart did from Mr. Lund Washington's.

I remained at home this day also.

Wednesday, 2d. Colo. Humphreys and myself accompanied Mr. Paradise and his lady to Alexandria. Dined with Mr. Charles Lee and returned in the Evening — leavg. Mr. and Mrs. Paradise there.

Thursday, 3d. Visited the Plantations at the Ferry, Dogue Run, and Muddy hole.

At the first the Women were taking up and thinning the Trees in the swamp which they had before grubbed. The Men were getting stakes and trunnels¹ for fencing and making Racks to feed the Creatures in. Began yesterday and would about finish to day sowing the New Meadow at this (which was too thin of timothy) with a quart of timothy Seed to the Acre.

At French's they were putting up Racks to feed the Cattle in. One man was getting stakes for fencing.

At Dogue Run, the women began to hoe the Swamp they had grubbed in order to prepare it for Sowing in the Spring with grain and grass seeds. The Men were cutting the Tops of the Trees which had been fallen for Rails into Coal-Wood.

At Muddy hole, the Women after having threshed out the Pease, went about the fencing, two Men getting Stakes, etca. for it. All the Pease from the broadcast sow-

¹ Tree-nails=trunnels.

ing at this place, amounted to no more than 7 bushels of good and 5 pecks of defective ones, which was far short of expectation bad as the year proved.

Friday, 4th. Rid to all the Plantations.

In the Neck the Men were getting Posts and Rails; the women were threshing Oats.

At Muddy hole, the Men were getting Rails and the Women makg. fences.

At Dogue Run, the Men were cutting Coal-Wood and the Women Hoeing Swamp as yesterday.

At French's the Men were cuttg. and Mauling fence Stakes and the Women levelling old ditches and grubbing. From this Plantation 120 Bushls. of clean Oats had been sent to Muddy hole, 108 brot. to the Mansn. House, and 100 left for the Plow horses on the Plantation. These, with some which had been carried to Muddy hole in the straw, and what the Plow horses have all the Fall and Winter fed on, constituted the amount of what grew in field No. 1., whereof 15 Acres were in Wheat leaving abt. 40 in Oats.

At the Ferry, the Men were getting Stakes, making Racks, &ca. and the Women thinning trees in the Swamp.

Doctr. Craik dined here and returned afterwards to Alexandria.

A Vessel with 130 Barls. of Corn, sent by Colo. Mercer ¹ arrived here, but from mismanagement of the Overseer on board no notice thereof was given till Sundown; consequently no endeavours used to land it tho' the weather indicated a severe frost.

Saturday, 5th. The River a good deal covered with Ice wch. prevented any attempts to land Corn till after noon when 16 Barls. only were got on shore and deposited in the

¹ Colonel John Fenton Mercer.

Corn loft. Majr. G. Washington and his wife set off abt. 11 O'clock for Eltham, to take [in] the Marriage of Mr. Burwell Bassett¹ with Miss McCarty of Pope's Creek in their way down; but their horses (being unused to a Phaeton and) running restive they were obliged to Return after having proceeded abt. 5 Miles on their journey.

I remained at home all day.

About Eight o'clock in the evening we were alarmed, and the house a good deal a dangered, by the soot of one of the Chimneys taking fire and burning furiously, discharging great flakes of fire on the Roof, but happily by having aid at hand and proper exertion no damage ensued.

Sunday, 6th. The Major and his wife recommenced their journey to day, aided by a pair of my horses to take them over the worst of the Roads.

Monday, 7th. Visited the Plantations at Dogue Run and French's. At the first the women (though the grd. was too hard to Hoe) were grubbing and otherwise preparing the Swamp for Meadow. The Men were cutting as usual.

At French's (except Abram who was cutting stakes) the rest were threshing out Pease.

Set the Women belonging to the Ferry, and to Muddy hole, to grubbing the Woods in front of the House, adjoining the last years Corn.

Began to day to fill my Ice house, and for expediting the business, brought 3 Carts from the Plantations and some hands.

The ground being too hard to Ditch, the Dutchman came home and broke flax and the Negro Men were employed in cutting Rail stuff and Brick Wood.

Tuesday, 8th. I remained at home all day.

¹ Son of Colonel Burwell Bassett.

My Carriage brot. Betsy and Patcy Custis down — their mother having gone to Maryland occasioned by the death of her father, the Honble. Benedict Calvert, Esqr.

Wednesday, 9th. Colo. Carrington came here to Dinner. I continued at home all day.

Yesterday and this day, employed as Monday in collecting for, and ramming Ice, in my Ice house.

Thursday, 10th. Colo. Carrington left this after breakfast (on my horses) for Colchester, to meet the Stage.

Giles, who with a pair of my horses assisted G. A. Washington on his journey, returned about Noon.

Getting Ice as yesterday, House not yet half full.

Friday, 11th. Visited the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue Run, French's and the Ferry.

The hands at Muddy hole, except 2 men who were cutting and Mauling Rails, were grubbing at the Mansion house, and some about the Ice.

The hands at Dogue run were grubbing (that is the Women) in the Mill Swamp — and had been so since Tuesday. Men cutting Wood and Mauling Rails.

At French's the Women that were well (except one at the Ice house) were threshing pease. One man cutting and Mauling Stakes for fences.

At the Ferry the Women were grubbing at the Mansion Ho. The Men getting Stakes, etca.

Collecting, filling, and pounding Ice for the Ice house as had been the employment of the Week.

Saturday, 12th. About Noon and before, there were great appearances of Snow, some falling, afterwards it brightened and the afternoon became clear, mild and pleasant.

Upon which Colo. Humphreys and myself set off for the meeting of the Directors of the Potomack Co. to be held at the Falls of Shanondoah, but meeting a letter from Colo. Fitzgerald, enclosing one from Governor Johnson requesting that the meeting might be postponed till Tuesday, we turned back and I returned home by the way of Dogue Run.

Getting Ice as usual, which makes the 6th day (except some interruption from the weather on Tuesday) that as many people and Carts have been engaged in this work as could be advantageously employed, altho' Six feet of Space was yet left.

Sunday, 13th. The Weather prevented my settg. out for the meeting at Shanondoah.

Colo. Hooe, a Mr. Wickoff, and a Captn. Thomas came here to dinner and returned in the evening.

Monday, 14th. The cold, apprehension of the Horses balling with the Snow that had fallen, and insufficiency of time to reach the place of meeting agreeably to appointment, induced me to relinquish the journey altogether.

I remained at home all day, employed as last week getting and pounding Ice for the Ice house.

Tuesday, 15th. Rid to the Plantations at Dogue Run, French's, and the Ferry. At the first, the Men were cutting and mauling of Rails; and the Women grubbing in the Mill swamp.

At French's, the Women were still threshing Pease, and two men cutting trunnels for Fences.

At the Ferry, the Men were getting stakes and trunnels; and the women grubbing at the Mansn. House.

As were also the People belonging to Muddy hole.

Employed at the Mansion House as yesterday in getting

Ice into the Ice [house], but did not compleat it, it wanting near three feet to fill it.

Thursday, 17th. Visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck the [men] were getting Posts and Rails for Fencing; Women, in part were cleaning oats, and in part cutting down Corn Stalks in No. 9.

At Muddy hole 2 Men were getting Rails, one carting of them; and the Women that were well, were grubbing at the Mansn. House.

At Dogue Run, the Men were getting Rails, and the Women, as the Mill swamp had a good deal of water in it, with the Overseer came to the home house to grub.

At French's, except two men who were getting stakes and trunnels for Fencing, the rest were cleaning the Pease which had been threshed.

At the Ferry, the women were at the New Ground at home, the Men getting stakes, etca. for Fencing.

Friday, 18th. Rid to the Mill, French's, and Ferry Plantations.

Work at all the places as yesterday.

Saturday, 19th. I remained at home all day. From Muddy hole there was brought 21 Bushls. of Pease, whereof 9 only were sound and good, the others were hurt by the frost and Rotten.

A Mr. Copley (a considerable Manufacturer of Cloth) from Leeds in Yorkshire came here in the evening, introduced by letter from Doctr. McHenry of Baltimore.

Sunday, 20th. Mr. Ingraham, and Mr. Porter came here to dinner and returned to Alexandria in the evening.

Mr. Bushrod Washington and his wife came here in the Afternoon.

Monday, 21st. Rid to the Ferry, French's, Dogue run, and Muddy hole Plantations.

The women at the first were at wk. in the New grd. The Men were set to getting Rails.

At French's, two Men were cutting Trunnels for Fences, and the Women were carrying Rails from the swamp side to the division fence between the two Plantations.

At Dogue run, the Men were cutting and mauling of Rails, the Women at the New ground at the home House.

At Muddy hole 2 Men were cuttg. and mauling, 1 Carting, and the Women at the New ground.

From the Neck eight Women were also at this place grubbing.

Tuesday, 22d. The Ice on the River began to break this morning, and move with the tide, for the first time since the River closed.

Visited the Plantations in the Neck, Muddy hole, and Dogue Run.

At the former the Men were getting Posts and Rails, some of the women cutting down Corn Stalks and gathering them into heaps, 8 others of them at the Mansn. house.

At Dogue Run the hands were all of them employed as yesterday.

So likewise were those of Muddy hole.

On my Return home found Mrs. and Miss Stuart, and Mr. Lund Washington here, and just after we had dined Doctr. Ruston came in — all of whom, except Mr. L. Washington, stayed all Night.

Doctr. Ruston going away about 10 oclock I rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's and Dogue run.

At all of them, as also at Muddy hole and in the Neck, the hands were employed as usual except at French's, where the People were carrying Rails improperly.

From this place $13\frac{1}{2}$ Bushels of Pease were brought,

which with those brought from thence in the fall were all, except the frost bitten ones, that were raised at this place in broadcast. Those which suffered by frost were considerable, and as has been observed formerly great waste was experienced in gathering them from the unevenness of the ground.

Thursday, 24th. Mrs. and Miss Stuart, and Betsy and Patcy Custis went away after breakfast.

I continued at home all day.

Friday, 25th. At home all day.

Saturday, 26th. Rid to the Ferry and French's — the hands at the first employed as before.

At French's, part of them were in the New ground at the Mansion House where they began to Work on Thursday, and the others were repairing fences wch. had been blown down.

Sunday, 27th. At home all day.

Monday, 28th. Visited the Plantations at Muddy hole and Dogue Run.

The hands at both were employed as on Saturday — so were those of the Ferry and Neck. All those of French's except the Cutters and Carter, and the Woman Delia who was set to spinning flax, were employed in the New ground at home.

Tuesday, 29th. Rid to the Ferry, French's and Dogue Run Plantations. Found Colo. Gilpin on my ret[ur]n.

Employed as usual at each. 3 Men began to cut Rail timber yesterday afternoon at Dogue Run for the fence which is to divide fields No. 2 and 3.

Wednesday, 30th. Rid into the Neck, to Majr. Washington's Plantation, to Muddy hole, and the Carpenters. The fence between the Majr. and me was nearly compleated to the River above the Fish House at Johnson's.

Hands at all the places at W[or]k as usual.

Thursday, 31st. Visited the Plantation at Dogue Run. Men were cutting and Mauling as usual. The Women were putting up cross Fences in the Meadow by the Overseer's House.

Hands at all the other places employed as usual.

FEBRUARY

Friday, 1st. Visited the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue Run, French's and the Ferry.

Work at all as usual, the Women belonging to Dogue Run having returned to the New ground at the Mansion house.

Employed the five Negro Ditchers who had been cutting wood for burning Bricks in getting the same out of the Swamp where it grew.

Saturday, 2d. Visited my Ferry, French's and Dogue Run Plantations.

At all, the same work as usual; except that the Dogue Run Women were employed in putting up a cross fence in the Meadow by the Overseer's house — being the 2d. cross fence in that Meadw.

Set the home house gang to cording the Wood which had been cut for Brick.

Began with a pair of Sawyers, this day, to cut the flooring plank for a Barn, proposed to be built between the Ferry and French's Plantations, of 2 Inch Oak.

Doctr. Craik came down to visit Mathew Baldrige, but returned before dinner.

My Nephew Geo: Steptoe Washington came here this Evening to proceed to Lancaster¹ to visit his Brother Ferdinando Washington, who lay dangerously ill of a Consumption.

Sunday, 3d. Colo. Fitzgerald, Messrs. Porter, Ingraham, Murray and Bowen, Doctrs. Stuart and Craik, Junr., and a Mr. O'Conner came to Dinnr. and returned, except Dr. Stuart.

Monday, 4th. Visited the Plantation at Dogue Run. Women still about the cross fence.

Attempted to plow, but found it impracticable the ground not being thawed more than two or 3 Inches.

All other work as usual.

Doctr. Stuart went away after Dinner.

Tuesday, 5th. The River, which had opened very much yesterday and promised a free Navigation was entirely closed again to day, in all the malignancy of frost.

I remained within all day. Mr. Lear went up to Mr. Porter's² wedding in Alexandria.

Wednesday, 6th. Rid out, but finding the cold disagreeable, I returned — hands of all the places (except the Men) working in the New ground at the Mann. House.

Thursday, 7th. At home all day. Mr. Lear returned about 2 oclock from Alexandria.

Friday, 8th. Visited the Plantations at French's and the Ferry, at Work at both as usual.

The Neck and Muddy hole people, with the Women

¹ In New Kent County, Virginia.

² Of the firm of Porter & Ingraham.

belonging to the above two were at Work in the New Grd. in front of the House.

The Dogue Run [people] were not there, but at work in the Great Meadow at the Mill.

Sowed yesterday and to day, on the fallow Wheat at the Ferry (about 25 Acres) at the Rate of a quart of clean Timothy Seed and 5 lbs. of Red Clover Seed to the Acre on the Snow, wch. was about 2 or 3 Inches deep and very level.

Saturday, 9th. Visited all the Plantations except the Neck.

At all, working as usual — that is the Men getting Materials for fencing, and the Women, except those of Dogue Run, grubbing at the Mansion house, the Dogue Run Women grubbing in the G. Meadow.

Sunday, 10th. At home all day.

Majr. G. A. Washington returned from New Kent about 1 oclock, and just before dinner Doctr. Stuart, Mrs. Stuart, Miss Stuart, and Betsy and Patcy Custis came in.

Monday, 11th. Visited the Plantations at Muddy hole and Dogue Run.

The Women from every place were in the New Ground at home. Those at Dogue Run were in the G. Meadow at home, but there was too much water to work to advantage.

Tuesday, 12th. Doctr. Stuart (alone) returned to Abingdon after Breakfast.

I visited the Plantations of Muddy hole, French's and the Ferry. The People at all of them, and in the Neck at the usual Work. The Women from Dogue Run had on account of the wetness of the Swamp come to the New ground at the Mansn. House. It appearing that the

ground would be sufficiently thawed, I ordered the whole of them to take their Tools home and try to put up their Fences and do other work at their respective Plantations.

Ordered the Plows also to be tryed tomorrow.

Wednesday, 13th. The Marqs. de Chappedelaine (introduced by letters from Genl. Knox, Mr. Bingham, &ca.) Captn. Enys ¹ (a British Officer) Colo. Fitzgerald, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Nelson, and Mr. Ingraham came here to Dinner — all of whom returned after it, except the last.

I Remained at home all day.

The Plows at Muddy hole were usefully employed.

At Dogue run it seems the grds. were in bad order.

At the Ferry and French's they could not work for the Frost, and

In the Neck they were not set to Work till late.

Thursday, 14th. Visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck 7 Plows were at work in the field by the Barn — frost some interruption to the Plows; the Women grubbing along the Branch below the Spring, Men at work as usual.

At Muddy hole 3 plows going on very well. Women grubbing before them.

At Dogue run 4 plows were at Work in field No. 3, but it was so wet that I ordered them to Muddy hole after they had fed the Horses. Women in N: Grd. H[ome] Ho[use].

At neither French's nor the Ferry could the Plows work, the Women at each were levelling the old ditches.

Began yesterday to Ditch again at French's, and with Cornelius ² and his two Brothers to dig the foundation for the Barn between the Ferry and French's Plantations.

On my return from Riding, I found the Marqs. de

¹ Captain John Enys, of the Twenty-Ninth Foot, British Army.

² Cornelius McDermott Roe.

Chappedelaine and Doctor Lee² here, both of whom stayed all Night.

Friday, 15th. Let out a Fox (which had been taken alive some days ago) and after chasing it an hour lost it.

The Marquis de Chappedelaine and Mr. Ingraham returned to Alexandria after Dinner.

Saturday, 16th. At home all day.

Sunday, 17th. At home all day with the Family, Mrs. Stuart, Miss Stuart, and Betsy and Patcy Custis going away after breakfast.

Monday, 18th. Visited the Plantations at Muddy hole and French's.

The Ploughs were stopped every where.

The Women of Dogue Run, French's and the Ferry were all at work in the New ground at the Mansn. House.

At Muddy hole they were spreading dung.

George Steptoe Washington, who went down to see his Brother Ferdinand, who died before he got to Lancaster, returned about 12 oclock, and Mr. Harry Peake dined here.

Finished landing the last of the Corn sent here by Colo. Jno. Fras. Mercer.

Tuesday, 19th. Visited the Plantations in the Neck and at Muddy hole. At the first the Men were getting and preparing for fencing, the Women, some were grubbing, and others throwing down old fences in order to erect them anew.

At Muddy hole, the Women had just finished spreading dung on part of No. 1.

² Arthur Lee.

At the other places the Men were cutting and mauling and the Women grubbing at the Mansion House.

Wednesday, 20th. Rid to the Plantations in the Neck and at Muddy hole.

In the Neck the Women were putting up (as far as Rails were in place) the fence between fields No. 7 and 8.

At Muddy hole they were sprouting the stumps and taking up grubs in the Winter fallow of No. 4.

The People at the other places and at the Mansion House were working as usual.

Thursday, 21st. Rid to Muddy hole, Dogue Run, French's and Ferry.

At the first working as yesterday.

At Dogue Run the same; except that the cutters and maulers had shifted to the East side of the Plantation in order to get Rails to repair the Meadow fence.

Friday, 22d. Colo. Wm. Heth,¹ who came here to dinner yesterday, was sent by me to Alexandria to pursue his journey to New York in the Stage.

I remained at home all day.

Saturday, 23d. I remained at home all day.

Sunday, 24th. In the Evening the Revd. Mr. Fairfax² came in.

Monday, 25th. Mr. Fairfax going away directly after breakfast, I rid to the Plantations in the Neck, at Muddy hole and Dogue Run.

¹ Colonel William Heth; had been colonel of the Third Virginia Regiment in the Revolution.

² Bryan Fairfax.

At the first (that is the Neck) the Women were grubbing and fencing along the Creek.

At Muddy hole doing the same.

The Women from Dogue Run, French's and Ferry were at work in the New grd. at the Mansn. House.

Tuesday, 26th. Rid to Muddy hole, Dogue Run, French's and the Ferry Plantations.

At all, the People belonging to them were at work.

Set, in the Inclosure below the Garden, Seven bushels of Carrots to raise seed from, 6 of which, on the upper side, were of the Lemon kind. The other Bushel were of the Orange sort and are between the 2d. and 3d. Stakes, reckoning from the upper one.

Wednesday, 27th. Rid to all the Plantations — no plowing at any, grubbg. at most.

Thursday, 28th. Mr. Porter and his wife, and Mr. Ingraham and a Mr. Koch, a dutch Gentleman, came here to dinner. The two first stayed all Night, the latter returned to Alexandria.

I remained at home all day.

Friday, 29th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, D. Run and Muddy hole.

Cutting down Corn stalks at the first, grubbing at the other, and fencing at the two latter.

MARCH

Saturday, first. Rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole, D. Run and French's.

Fencing at the first, Cutting Corn stalks at the 2d. and grubbg. at the other.

Having sent my Waiter Will to Alexandria to the Post Office, he fell at Mr. Porter's door and broke the pan of his other knee and was not able to return.

The Letters were sent down by Mr. Ingraham by his assistant.

Sunday, 2d. At home all day.

Monday, 3d. Visited the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue run, French's, and the Ferry — the weather being too hard to grub.

At Muddy hole and Dogue Run, the Women were fencing.

At French's they were carrying trash to, and filling up Gullies; and

At the Ferry they were cutting down and picking up Corn Stalks.

Wednesday, 5th. Rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue run and French's.

At the two first the women were fencing, at the latter removing Rails for the same purpose.

The Ferry Women were at Work in the New grd. at the Mann. House.

Thursday, 6th. Rid to the Plantations in the Neck, Muddy hole, Dogue Run and French's.

At the first some of the Women were grubbing, and some fencing — the Men getting Rails.

At Muddy hole the women were grubbing, as they also were at French's.

At Dogue Run they were making fences.

Men at all the places getting Rails, etca.

On my return home found Doctr. Stuart and Mr. Jno. Calvert [†] here.

[†] Son of Benedict Calvert.

Colo. Humphreys and Majr. G. Washington went up to Alexandria, and returned in the evening.

Friday, 7th. Doctr. Stuart and Mr. Calvert going away after breakfast, I rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue Run, French's and the Ferry.

Work going on at each as pr. the Weekly report.

Saturday, 8th. Rid to the Plantations in the Neck, at Muddy hole and Dogue Run.

Work at each pr. Report Book, Majr. G. A. Washington set of this afternoon for Colo. Bassett's, where his wife was.

Sunday, 9th. Mr. Wm. Hunter, a Mr. Phillis and a Captn. Parnel came here to dinner.

The two latter went away after it.

Monday, 10th. Mr. Hunter went away after breakfast.

I rid to all the Plantations.

Began the Meadow fence in the Neck with some of the women, while others were grubbing.

At Muddy hole finished grubbing in field No. 4.

At Dogue Run grubbing below the Meadow by the Quarters.

At French's grubbing along the swamp sides, and

At the Ferry filling gullies with brush.

Tuesday, 11th. Rid to Muddy hole, Dogue Run, French's and the Ferry.

At the first began to plow — women making fence on ditch round the Barn, and in lane. The frost below the surface (2 or 3 Inches) stopped in places the plows, but I ordered them to proceed.

Directed the Plows at Dogue Run to begin to morrow.

At French's two-plows were at work, and the women began to fence between fields No. 1 and 4.

At the Ferry I directed the Plows to work to morrow. Women still filling the gullies, and the men preparing to fence on the long ditch.

Mr. Lund Washington and his wife dined here.

Wednesday, 12th. Rid to the Plantations in the Neck, Muddy hole, Dogue Run, French's and the Ferry.

At the River Plantation, the Plows were unable to work on acct. of the frost. The Women were fencing between fields No. 1 and 2, except those who were grubbing; having finished the fence by the Meadow.

At Muddy hole the Plows were going on very well, and the other People were repairing the outer fence (along the Ferry Road) of field No. 4.

At Dogue Run 5 Plows began to Work in field No. 3, and in the part intended for Barley, the ground in pretty good order. Women grubbing by the Quarters.

At French's Plowing and Fencing going on as yesterday.

At the Ferry, the Plows began to Work in field No. 3. The other people were employed in fencing. The grd. at this place was not in good order on acct. of the frost for Plowing.

Thursday, 13th. Rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue Run, French's and the Ferry.

Work as usual at all (except at Dogue Run, where the women havg. finished grubbing by the Quarters were employed in a piece of fencing round field No. 7.)

Began this day to sow the imported Beans and Pease at French's which, when finished, the place, kinds, and manner of putting in will be noticed.

Transplanted the last of my Carrots for Seed to day.

Friday, 14th. Went with Mr. Washington to Alexandria. Visited Captn. Conway, Doctr. Craik, Colo. Saml. Hanson, Mr. Murray, and Mr. Porter, with the last of whom we dined. Returned in the Even.

Saturday, 15th. Visited all the Plantations. At all of them, the full complement of Plows were at work and going on very well.

In the Neck, the women were spreading Dung on the ground intended for Oats and Barley, being the West part of No. 2. At this place also I caused to be sown a bed of Reynold's Turnip Rooted Cabbage, for the purpose of Raising plants to put in my Corn Rows.

At Muddy hole the Plows finished breaking up the Remains of Fd. No. 3 yesterday afternoon; and finding that part of No. 4 intended for Oats too wet to cross they went into field No. 1 to plow for Barley this Morning. The Women fencing rd. the same.

At Dogue Run, the Women began to Hooe the ground they had grubbed at the lower end of the Meadow; gave Scott's Cabbage Seed to be sown at this place on Monday on a bed to be barned.

At French's the Women were Fencing. The Farmer finished yesterday sowing the Pease and Beans on the No. side of the Middle Meadow in the following Manner: viz. — in the upper land, adjoining the fence, the Pease (1 bushel) were sown; the Next land to this a bushel of Berkshire Beans from Mr. Peachy was sown. In the 3d. 4th. 5th. and half [of] the Sixth lands the Beans from Mr. Young $3\frac{1}{4}$ (said by my Farmer to be the same of the last) were sown; and in the other half of the 6th. land and the 7th. were a bushel of the Gloucester Beans from Mr. Peachy.

At the Ferry the women were still about the fence of field No. 6.

Monday, 17th. Went up (accompanied by Colo. Humphreys) to the Election of Delegates to the Convention of this State (for the purpose of considering the New form of Governmt. which has been recommended to the United States); When Doctr. Stuart and Colo. Simms were chosen without opposition. Dined at Colo. Fitzgerald's and returned in the Evening.

Tuesday, 18th. Visited all the Plantations. In the Neck, found that the Plows had finished breaking up the Barn Inclosure last Night, and all, except one, (which went to laying of f[ield] No. 6 for planting Corn, etca.) were plowing for Oats in the No. Wt. corner of No. 2. The women were clearing the hedge Row in the same field and preparing for fencing. The Men were fixing post and Rails for fencing No. 6, etca., and making the lane betwn. them and fields No. 1 and 2.

The Ditchers, to wit, D[aniel] Overdonck, Boatswain, Robin, Charles and Bath, began yesterday to ditch for the same.

At Muddy hole, finding the ground (intended for Oats) in No. 4 had got tolerably dry, the plows were shifted from No. 1 thither yesterday after breakfast, and this day the grd. wch. they had plowed in No. 1 by the quarter was sowed with Barley and harrowed in. The women were partly fencing, and partly picking up Corn Stalks. Harrowed with Oxen, which made an awkwd. hand.

At Dogue Run, the Plows finished yesterday afternoon the ground intended for Barley in field No. 3, and began to plow that part of the same field wch. was designed for Oats. The Women were partly hoeing (as on Saturday) and partly grubbing before the Plows. The Cabbage Seed was sown at this place on Monday.

At French's, the Plows (now three) having finished breaking the ground in the lower meadow had gone this

Morning to breaking up in No. 3, but were ordered to plow to morrow the So. part of No. 2 for oats. The Women were fencing on the dividing line.

Yesterday 6 bushels of English oats, sent me by Mr. Young¹ was sowed on abt. 3 acres of grd. on the No. side of the Middle meadow — the ground once plowed, and the Seed harrowed in, in good tilth.

At the Ferry, the Ploughs went yesterday to plough (cross) the grd. in No. 6 wch. was intended for Oats, and it worked well, except being rather too wet. The women were fencing.

At the Mansion house, began the circular Post and Rail fencing in front of the lawn yesterday morning.

Mr. Madison on his way from New York to Orange came in before dinner and stayed all Night.

Wednesday, 19th. Remained at home all day.

Thursday, 20th. Mr. Madison (in my Carriage) went after breakfast to Colchester to fall in with the Stage.

I visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck began yesterday to sow oats, the other work going on as usual.

At Muddy hole, the Rain that fell on Tuesday Night made the grd. intended for oats too wet to plow; they therefore returned to that wch. was designed for Barley in No. 1 and plowed there. The women, having finished fencing, were grubbing in the sunken part of No. 3.

At Dogue Run the Plows, five, were plowing for oats, and the women hoeing.

At French's the Plows were at Work in No. 2 for oats and the women fencing. $1\frac{3}{4}$ Bushls. of Summer Wht.

¹ Arthur Young, President of the Agricultural Society of Great Britain. Washington's letters to him on agricultural matters have been published: *Letters on Agriculture from his Excellency George Washington to Arthur Young and Sir John Sinclair*. Edited by Franklin Knight. (Washington, 1847.)

(sent by Mr. Young) was sowed at this place yesterday below the Beans and Pease in the Middle Meadow. At the same time better than half a Bushel of Orchard grass-seeds and 18 lbs. of Clover were Sown in the same Meadow on the English Oats by the old bridge, and the ground cross harrowed. The Wheat was harrowed in.

At the Ferry the Plows were crossing in No. 6 for oats. The other hands were fencing.

Friday, 21st. Rid to all the Plantations. In the Neck, Oats sowing, and other Work going on as usual.

At Muddy hole continued sowing and harrowing in Barley, after the ground got thawed and a little dried at Top.

At Dogue Run, working as yesterday.

At French's the same, and the ground which had been sowed with English Oats and Grass-seeds was Rolled.

At the Ferry, the work was the same as yesterday.

On my Return home found a Mr. Rogers of New York here, who dined and proceeded to Alexandria afterwds.

Saturday, 22d. Visited all the Plantations. In the Neck, sowing oats and Grass Seeds, viz. 5 pints of Red clover, and 2 pints of Timothy to the acre, which, being cross plowed in, was afterwards Rolled.

At Muddy hole, sowed the same quantity of Red Clover and timothy to the acre as above on the Barley wch. had been sown. Some of it having been in the ground 2 or 3 days and a Rain fallen thereon, I did not incline to disturb the grain with an Iron tined harrow, and therefore rubbed a bush harrow over it to smooth the surface and to bury the grass-seeds.

At Muddy [Dogue] Run, began to sow oats this morning, all of which was harrowed in and cross harrowed.

At French's, and the Ferry the Work was the same as

yesterday, and the hands of the former compleated the fencing of field No. 3, except the part wch. divides it from the Middle Meadow.

On my Return home found Colo. Jno. Mercer ¹ here who remained all Night.

Sunday, 23d. To dinner came Doctr. Stuart, Mrs. Stuart and Miss Stuart, and the 4 Children; and after it Colo. Mercer went away.

Monday, 24th. Mr. Jno. Dawson came here a little before dinner, and proceeded after it to Alexandria.

Tuesday, 25th. Visited all the Plantations. The ground at all was too hard frozen and when thawed too wet to sow and harrow till afternoon.

Mr. Benjn. Dulaney came here, dined, and returned afterwards.

Wednesday, 26th. Doctr. Stuart went away after breakfast.

I visited all the Plantations. Sowing, harrowing, and Rolling retarded at each on acct. of the frost in the Morning, and stickiness of the earth afterwards, till towards Noon.

Finished sowing so much of the West cut of No. 2 in the Neck, as recd. the Oats raised from the Seed of Genl. Spotswood; and Clover and timothy thereon; and harrowed and cross harrowed them in, but could not Roll them on acct. of the dampness on the surface. Began to sow Oats in the Eastermost cut of this field which was finished plowing this Morning, and to plow in the Middle cut for Barley.

At Muddy hole, finished sowing and harrowing in Barley up to the Road in No. 1, from the quarter, and by mistake

¹ John Fenton Mercer.

the plows went to work in the Same field on the lower side of the Quarter, and were ordered to go to field No. 4 to morrow and cross plow Oats.

Sowing Oats, and other work doing as yesterday at D: Run.

At French's, the Plows at wk. as yesterday, and the Women filling gullies in the lower Meadow.

At the Ferry the Plows, having yesterday finished cross plowing for oats, began this day to Sow, the Women cleaning the swamp in No. 2 and thinning the Trees there.

Thursday, 27th. Went to Alexandria (consequent of a Summons, to give evide. in a Suit betwn. the admr. of Mr. Custis and Mr. Robt. Alexander), dined at Colo. Hooe's, and returned in the evening. Mrs. Washington, Mrs. Stuart, and Colo. Humphreys also din'd at Colo. Hooe's.

Passed thro' Muddy hole Plantation, where grass-seeds were harrowing in on the Barley, and the ground cross harrowing.

The Plows had begun this morning to cross for Oats as ordered yesterday. The Women of this place, except those who were engaged with the Plows and Harrows, came yesterday to and were engaged to day in, the Ground in front of the Mansion House, preparing it for Corn.

Friday, 28th. Visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck, Plowing, Sowing (Oats and Grass seeds), fencing and picking up Corn Stalks. Conceiving that putting in Grass-Seeds before harrowing across with the dble. harrows, buried them too deep, I ordered the Grain should be first harrowed in and cross harrowed, and then the Seeds sown and run over with a bush harrow and afterwards Rolled.

At Muddy hole did the same, where the efficacy of the measure and consequence of harrowing in with an Iron

tined harrow the Grass seeds may be seen; the So. Et. corner of the ground as far and rather beyond the old farm pen being put in, in this manner. As was those in the Neck in which Spotswood's Oats were sown, on the No. side of the West cut.

At Dogue Run, the Plows, yesterday, finished plowing for oats and went to breaking up the ground between fields No. 5 and 6. The Women having also hoed up the ground below the Meadow, were employed in doing the like in a slash in field No. 5. Sowing and harrowing Oats as usual.

At French's began yesterday to harrow and Sow Oats; the other hands filling gullies in the lower meadow.

At the Ferry, Sowing and harrowing in Oats. The plows went on Thursday to finish breaking up field No. 2 for Corn and were employed there to day, and the Women were hoeing the slash in the same field.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Washington dined here, and returned afterwards.

Saturday, 29th. Visited all the Plantns.

In the Neck, the Plows (this morning) finished plowing the West cut of No. 2 for Barley, and went into the middle cut of the same field. Sowed the East cut of the same field with 46 Bushls. of Oats which were all harrowed and cross-harrowed, except the last sowed, to do wch. there was not time — nor to sow the whole with grass-seeds.

At Muddy hole, finished sowing and harrowing in with a bush, grass Seeds on the Barley that had been sowed at Muddy hole.

At all the other Plantations the Work was the same as yesterday.

A Mr. Cay, Undertaker of the Plaistering of the Capitol, came here (with a letter from the Govern.) to look at my New Room. He dined and went away afterwards, and in the evening Mr. Fendal came.

Colonels Hanson and Ramsay, Mr. Powel and Messrs. Jenks and Winsor dined here, in addition to those who were here before, and returned afterwards.

Mrs. Jenifer also dined here and returned after it.

Monday, 31st. Doctr. Stuart, Mrs. Stuart and the Girls, together with Nelly Custis, set out for Abingdon, and a Son of Revd. Mr. Griffith's came here on business of his father's and stayed to dinner.

Visited all the Plantations. In the Neck, began to sow in the So. Wt. part of the West cut of No. 2, but had not finished sowing grass-seeds in the East cut.

At Muddy hole, began to sow Barley and grass-seeds which had been sown in No. 1

At Dogue run, finished sowing and harrowing Oats in No. 3; qty. of Oats [] bushls. Began Saturday afternoon to plow for Engh. Barley in the Turnip ground at this place.

At French's, having finished plowing the ground (but not sowing it) intended for oats, two plows, while the other team was harrowing in the Oats went to breakg. the ground in the same field No. 2 for Barley. The Women, in part were filling gullies in No. 3, and the other part, and the Cart gettg. dung to the gullies which had been levelled in the lower meadow.

At the Ferry, harrowing in Oats with one harrow, the Plows would, this afternoon, abt. finish breaking field No. 2 for Corn. Women hoeing in the swamp as before.

In my Botanical Garden, next the Necessary house, was sown 3 Rows of Grass-seeds sent me from Kentucke by Colo. Marshall,¹ name unknown; and the next 3 rows to these were sown with what this Gentleman calls wild Rye, but it more resembles Oats. All the other Rows of this were of the painted lady Pease. Put in cuttings of the Weeping Willow, behind the Post and Rail fence along the

¹ Humphrey Marshall.

Road leading to the Gate in the hollow, at the distance of a foot from each other. This work was unavoidably delayed too late, as the buds were not only much swelled but the leaves of most of them beginning to unfold.

APRIL

Tuesday, 1st. Went with Mrs. Washington and Colo. Humphreys to visit Mr. and Mrs. Rogr. West. Dined there and returned in the afternoon.

Previous to this I visited all my Plantations.

At the Ferry the Plows began to Work in field No. 3, the Harrow putting in Oats and grass-seeds, and the Women hoeing the swamp.

At French's the Work was going on as yesterday. Grass Seeds, at the rate of 3 pints of Timothy and 6 of Red Clover, sowing to the Acre.

At Dogue run, the Harrows, after crossing the Sown Oats, were layed aside and 2 plows went to crossing the grd. destined for Barley. The Women were hoeing the swamp in the Middle meadow by the Overseer's house.

At Muddy hole, Plowing, sowing, Harrowing and Rolling were going on. The Women not engaged in these were at work at the Mansn. Ho. New ground.

In the Neck, the ground intended for Barley in the West cut of No. 2 that was stiff, and did not work fine at first, was cross plowed [and] harrowed till it was brought into fine order. Finished harrowing in Oats and grass-seeds in the East cut of this field, but not rolling some part of the Roller havg. given way.

Made a draught with the Sein this evening at the Ferry landing, and caught 15 Shad and a few hundreds of Herrings at one hawl.

Wednesday, Second. The ground had got dry, and some-

what (in places) baked; moderate and warm rain wanting.

Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run and Muddy hole.

At the two first, and last, the Work was going on precisely as yesterday.

At Dogue run, began to sow grass Seeds on the oats, at the rate of 3 pints of Timothy and 6 pints of Red clover to the acre.

Sowed in drills, in the Section of my Botanical garden between the Salt House and the other, and among the Pride of China Plants, [] Rows of the Grass-Seed sent me by Colo. Marshall of Kentucke, being the same with the 3 Rows sowed in the West pt. of the other Section on Monday last.

Transplanted from a box in the Garden, 13 plants of the horse chesnut, into the Shrubberies by the Garden Walls.

Thursday, 3d. Continued at home all day.

Friday, 4th. Rid to all the Plantations.

In the Neck, Plowing, sowing Barley and Grass Seeds, and other work as on Wednesday.

At Muddy hole, stopped the Roller in order that two harrows might be covering Oats. At this place the first sown Barley was coming up and appeared to be thick.

At Dogue Run the usual work was going on.

At the French's began to sow Barley in the No. part of No. 2. At this place perceived the English Oats and the Pease were coming up; the oats tolerably thick.

At the Ferry, the harrow having finished (yesterday) covering the oats, and grass seeds. All three of the Plows were breaking up in No. 3.

Caught 500 Shad to day. In my Botanical Garden, on thursday morning, before the Rain, I sowed in the Section next the Spinning house, one Row of Rhubarb seed, sent

me by Mr. Jay,¹ the Seeds 3 Inches apart. These were placed along the Walk parallel to the Ho.

Saturday, 5th. Visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck, the same work as yesterday was going forward.

At Muddy hole the same also.

At Dogue run the same. The two plows at this place finished breaking up the turnip ground in No. 1 about dinner time and went afterwards to crossing in No. 2 for Barley.

At French's the same work going forward, and

At the Ferry also.

Sunday, 6th. Sent my two Jackasses² to the Election at Marlborough in Maryld. that they might be seen.

Monday, 7th. Visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck, the Posting, Railing, and ditching was compleated this Morning up to the Gate; and the other part to the Gut, set about. The Plows would, about Noon, finish breaking up the Middle cut of No. 2, and a particular part of wch. being very cloddy and stiff, I ordered it to be crossed, and the whole of what was not already sown with Barley to be gone over once, or oftener with the harrows before it was sowed, that it might be the better prepared for the Reception of this grain and Grass-Seeds. The women would about have done picking up and heaping the Corn Stalks in No. 3 to day (having finished those in No. 7) and would repair the fence round No. 6 and Orchard Inclosure.

At Muddy hole, the Plows wd. finish to day, crossing the

¹ John Jay, of New York.

² 'Royal Gift,' received from the King of Spain, and 'Knight of Malta,' received from the Marquis de Lafayette. At the same time an advertisement was inserted in the *Maryland Journal* calling attention to the valuable breeding qualities of the two jacks.

ground for Oats, and would go into No. 1 to break up the Remainder of that allotted for Barley. Ordered the Women from the New Ground to Hoe along the fence where the ground had been grubbed in the Oat field for the better reception of this grain.

At Dogue Run, the Women wd. about compleat hoeing the Swamp in the Middle Meadow. Removed the Plow that was laying off for Corn to assist in crossing for Barley in No. 2. Finished Sowing grass-seeds this Morning and harrowing them on the Oats in the same field; qty. 2 bushls. of Clover and 1 of Timothy.

At French's, two Plows and a harrow were putting in Barley and grass-seed as usual, and the women filling gullies in field No. 3.

At the Ferry 1 plow began to lay off Corn Rows in No. 2 and one other, being stopped on acct. of the failure of one of the plow beasts, I sent a Mare from the Mn. Ho. (wch. had been brought from the Neck) there to assist. The Women were hoeing an old hedge Row in No. 2.

In the Vineyard Inclosure below the Stables I sowed in a bed in the No. Et. Cornr. the Seed of the Runkel Recbar, or Root of Scarcity, and adjoining this in two other beds, ranging therewith, the Seeds of Sulla were sown; the Middle bed was the freshest seeds. Next below these, in drills, is the Seeds sown which was sent by Mr. Peacy to my Farmer. Below these again will be sown the Seeds of the Fancy grass, given to me by the Revd. Mr. Massey, but night coming on prevented its being done this evening. In the lawn West of the House, and West part of it, I sowed $3\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of Blue grass Seeds, from the fall therein to the Walks. The No. half was mixed with 3 bushels of the Plaister of Paris, and the South half without, having had Plaister spread thereon in the last Autumn on a slight snow.

Tuesday, 8th. About 10 oclock, in company with Colo. Humphreys, Mrs. Washington, Harriott Washington and Washington Custis, I set of for Abingdon, where we dined and stayed all Night.

Wednesday, 9th. Dined at Abingdon and returned home in the evening — all except Harriot Washington.

Thursday, 10th. Visited all the Plantations. In the Neck, the Plows having crossed the ground (which left it in as rough a state as before) that was intended for Flax, began this Morning (Six of them) to list No. 6 for Corn. Previous to this the laying off furrow was deepned, and two thrown into it. Every other one of these was left for the vegitable tribe to fill hereafter. The Women were repairing the fencing from the lane to the Barn, and the Harrows were putting in Barley and grass Seeds in the Middle cut of field No. 2.

At Muddy hole, the Plows as was expected finished crossing for Oats in field No. 4, and went into No. 1 to plow for Barley. The Women having hoed up the ground along the fence in this field were spreading what dung remained in heaps on the South half of the half Acre sqrs. on experimental ground last y[ea]r intended for Barley this.

At Dogue Run Began as ever as the grd. was in order after the Rain, to harrow in Barley grass seeds after the Plows, 4 of wch. were at Wk. and 2 harrows; one of them (single) drawn by Oxen. The Women were prevented from finishing hoeing the Meadow on acct. of the Rain and went yesterday to putting up the Logs wch. were in place betwn. fields No. 2 and 3, and to day were pickg. up Corn Stalks in No. 4.

At French's. The Plows and Harrows were putting in Barley and grass-Seeds. The Women having filled the gullies in fd. No. 3 were heaping dung for the Cart, and

spreading it when carted in the places wch. had been filled up in the lower Meadow.

At the Ferry the Women were levelling the old ditch betwn. this Plantn. and French's, having hoed up the hedge Row in No. 2. One plow laying off for Corn, and 2 breakg. up No. 3.

At the Mansn. House, sowed as was intended in the Vineyard inclosure; below the Seed sent by Mr. Peacy, in drills, the Fancy grass, and below the Fancy grass, what Burnett I had left, in drills also. And adjoining these below, were sowed, or rather planted, the everlasting (or Lady Pease) sent me by the Honble. James Mercer.

Friday, 11th. Rid to Muddy hole, Dogue Run, French's and the Ferry plantations, and to the Fishing landing.

At Muddy hole, finished sowing Oats; qty. [] bushls. but would not more than get them harrowed in by Night and crossed. The Women were Spreading dung as yesterday, and the Plows at Work as yesterday, for Barley.

At D. Run, the Ploughs and harrows were employed in gettg. in Barley, grass-seeds in No. 2. The women at this place began to cross hoe the grd. they had broke up in the lower end of the Ho. Meadw. in order to prepare it for Flax and grass. Send a hand from this place to the fishing landing.

At French's the Women were levelling the old ditch in No. 3, some of them, whilst others were employed in heap-ing dung. Plows and Harrows putting in Barley and grass Seeds.

At the Ferry, the Plows were at Work as yesterday, the Women repairing fence around No. 7.

Caught a good many fish to day, both shad and herrings.

Saturday, 12th. Visited the Neck, the Sowing, Seeding with grass, harrowing, etca., of 100 Bushels of Barley was

completed; but the cross harrowing of the So. Et. part was not accomplished till after the Rain, and being in part done (for dispatch) with the large or drag harrow, it is not improbable but that the grass-seeds may be buried too deep. This Barley was sown on a single plowing, which was insufficient; but where the ground was stiff and cloddy, I ordered it to be harrowed till it was tolerably well reduced before the Barley should be sown, and being harrowed and cross harrowed afterwards upon the whole might be said to be in good order. The Post and Rail fence to the gut was completed this afternoon. Women repairing fences, and ploughs listing for Corn.

At Muddy hole, recommenced sowing of Barley in No. 1; North of the Quarter and following the Plows. The Women returned to the New ground to work.

At Dogue run, Plowing for sowing and harrowing in Barley and grass Seeds. Women cross Hoeing as yesterday.

Sunday, 13th. Went to Church at Alexandria accompanied by Colo. Humphreys, Mr. Lear, and Washington Custis. Brought Harriot Washington home with us who had been left at Abingdon and came to Church with Mrs. Stuart.

Monday, 14th. Visited the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue run, French's, and the Ferry — also the Fishing landing.

At Muddy hole, Plowing and harrowing in Barley in No. 1; Women making Hills in No. 3 for Sweet Potatoes.

At Dogue Run, cross plowing for and harrowing in Barley and grass Seeds. The women were cross hoeing in the Meadow, but were sent with their hoes and Baskets to break the grass tussucks in the Barley ground, in those low parts thereof, which neither the Plows nor harrows could accomplish and to pile the grass.

At French's, Plowing for, and sowing, harrowing in Barley and grass Seeds; women grubbing and filling gullies in No. 3.

At the Ferry, besides the Plow wch. was laying off in No. 3 for Corn, the other two came this afternoon to listing after it. The women were repairing fences and heaping Dung.

Caught about 50,000 herrings at a draught this afternoon.

Put in slips of the Weeping Willow along the Walks to the gate. The leaves of these were more than an inch long.

The Reverd. Mr. Fairfax came here to dinner and stayed all Night.

Tuesday, 15th. Rid to all the Plantations (Mr. Fairfax going away after breakfast).

At all of them, the same work was going on as yesterday.

At Dogue Run, the Plows finished crossing for Barley in fd. No. 2, and two of them began to cross for flax in the same field, and a third to break up a piece of ground for Do., wch. is to be taken into the Meadow next the Overseer's house.

In the Neck harrowing in Oats and grass-Seeds, the Women beating Tussicks and carrying off grass from part of the Barley ground.

The remains of my everlasting Pease were put in the grd. in the Neck to day — in the Orchard Inclosure.

Buck Wheat in all the ground that produced a crop of it last year is coming up from the shattered seed, and in places thick.

Wednesday, 16th. Visited the Plantations at Muddy hole, D. Run, French's and the Ferry, and the Fishing landing.

At Muddy hole, the Plows would finish about 10 oclock plowing for Barley in No. 1 and the grd. would receive the

Barley; q[uan]t[ity], 48 Bushels. In this grd. was also sown [] pints of Red Clover and [] pints of Timothy Seeds. The Women having finished hilling as much grd. as would do for the Sweet Potatoes, I ordered them to remove the Farm Pen, and to heap the dung.

At D. Run finished sowing Barley in No. 2., qty. 55 Bls. With the Barley was sown [] pints of Red Clover and [] pints of Timothy Seeds. The Plows, harrows and women employed as yesterday at this place.

At French's, the same work as yesterday. Examined the ground at this place which had been sown with English seeds, and found mattrs. to stand as follow: viz. The Oats had come up well, and were sufficiently thick. The Pease had been either sown too thin, or being damaged, had come up badly; not being sufficiently thick; the Berkshire Beans adjoining to them (from Mr. Peacy) were up, but too thin also. Next to these (said also to be) Berkshire Beans from Mr. Young none were up, and it is supposed never would come up. The Gloucester Beans below were up, but too thin. The Summer Wheat next to those again, were almost entirely missing — not more than a plant here and there to be seen. The American Cabbage seed was up tolerably thick which had been sown in beds.

At the Ferry the Plows were listing and the Women heaping dung.

Thursday, 17th. Visited all the Plantations and the Fishing Landing.

In the Neck, the Plows began yesterday morning to cross so much of the ground in the orchard Inclosure, as lay East of the New Post and Rail Fence for oats; and part of them were sown and harrowed in before the Rain. Attempted with the harrow, to reduce the ground wch. had been crossed in the Barn inclosure for Flax, but finding it impracticable, I ordered the Hoes to follow the harrows,

and beat the grassy clods to pieces in order to prepare it for Flax. Finished sowing oats in field No. 2. qty., besides the 42 Bushls. from Spotswood's seed, 77 Bushls. On this and the 100 Bushls. of Barley in the same field were sown [] pints or lbs. of Red clover Seed, and [] pints or lbs. of Timothy Seed. Began to day to Roll the Barley, but was obliged to desist on Acct. of the Rain. Finished crossing abt. 11 O'clock the grd. before mentioned East of the New fence and the Plows returned to listing again in No. 6.

At Muddy hole, the Plows began yesterday a little before dinnr. to Plow the 5 acres of experimental grd. in No. 2 for Barley. Would have half finished it by the same time to day, but for the Rain. By mistake he was (that is the Overseer) crossing the sown Barley before the grass seeds were sown. Would not be able to compleat this before the Rain. On this crossing he was sowing Seeds with intention to Bush harrow them in. All the grd. sown before the Rain, will not *now* need this. Women removing Farm Pen, and heaping dung in No. 3.

At Dogue Run, the Plows finished breaking up the Slipe, to be included within the Meadow, about breakfast time and had gone to crossing the Turnip grd. in No. 1 for Barley. Sowed, harrowed, and crossed with grass-seeds as on Oats and Barley 3 Bushels of Flax Seed in the No. Et. Corner of No. 2 (at D. Run). Chopped about the Stumps in order to put the Seed in the better.

At French's, the Plows finished about Noon breaking up No. 2 for Oats and Barley. Began to Roll the Oats in this field, which were three inches high among which were Clover and Timothy [which] had been just sown. This work was stopped by the Rain. The Women were filling gullies in No. 3.

At the Ferry, the Roller wch. was going over the Oats (also up 2 or 3 inches) was stopped by the Rain. The

Plows at this place was listing and the Women were filling gullies in No. 3.

Charles Hagan came to Brick making to day. Set him to makg. a cover for the Bricks before he began to Mould. Gunner and Sam were sent to Work with him.

Friday, 18th. Rode to the Fishing landing, the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue run, and Muddy hole. Also to my Mill where the heavy rain of last Night had blown up my lower tumbling dam, or waste, and broke the Race in other places, which was the more unfortunate as all my People were busily employed in other work.

The Ditchers, however, and two Carpenters, were sent to repair the damage.

At the Ferry, the abundance of Rain which fell in the course of yesterday and last Night rendered plowing in the Corn grd. impracticable. The plows therefore were shifted to the hill in No. 7.

At French's, from the same cause they were removed to No. 3, to break up for Corn, having finished plowing No. 2. (all but the So. Et. corner) and unable to cross in the lower meadow. Women filling gullies in No. 3, but ordered to grub and sprout the Clover ground in the upper meadow at this place.

At D. Run the Plows were stopped entirely. The Women and plow people were beating the Clods and removing the grass from the Barley ground.

At Muddy hole, the Women were heaping dung; and cross harrowing of Barley being stopped, the three plows were employed in the 5 acres of experimental ground in No. 2, to break it up, and to prepare it for Barley, etca.

The Rain having washed up many of the Willow cuttings wch. had been set by the Post and Rail fence near the Road, I had them (late as it is in the Season) replaced, tho' there is little hope of their living.

Saturday, 19th. Rode to all the Plantations, to the Mill, Brick yard, and fishing landing.

In the Neck the Plows were stopped yesterday, and to day the grd. being too wet to list, I ordered them into field No. 9 till the water had subsided. Harrows and Rollers unable to work, Women heaping dung, rotten Straw, and other trash about the Barn and Farm yard.

At Muddy hole, the Plows about Noon finished plowing the 5 acres of exp[erimenta]l grd. in No. 2, which was sown with 10 bushls. of Barley and harrowed in length ways. The first acre (or 2 half acre Squares) was also sown with 6 lbs. of White clover (imported) but remained unharrowed (cross wise) till 4 bushels of Sainfoin wch. was in soak should be sown on there likewise. Women heaping dung, old Straw, etca. about the Barn.

At Morris's (Dogue Run) the Plows this morning began to work in the grd. which had been hoed in the meadow (all other being too wet) to prepare it for Flax and Orchard grass. The Women began to chop that which was plowed on the other side of the Meadow. Cabbage Seed at this place had come up tolerably well, and the plants stood tolerably thick.

At French's, finding the field No. 3 in which the plows were at work too wet, I ordered them into No. 5 to break it for B[uck] Wheat as a fallow and Manure for Wheat. The Women, having sprouted and cleaned the Clover in the upper Meadow, were again filling gullies in the field No. 3 and Meadow adjoining.

At the Ferry, the Plows were still on the Hill in No. 7. — Corn grd. being too wet to list. The Women were filling gullies in No. 3. At this place, the effect of the fish Manure wch. was put into the Corn hills in May last was visible with the Wheat, almost as far as the latter could be seen. The lower meadow appears very indifferent — scarce any grass but in the low and wet part of it, and no great appearance of Timothy there.

Sunday, 20th. Mr. Herbert, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Fendall, and Doctr. Stuart came here to Dinner and returned afterwards. Mrs. Stuart and her three daughters came to Dinner and stayed all Night.

Monday, 21st. Went to Alexandria to the Election of a Senator for the district and delegates for the County in the General Assembly, when Mr. Pope¹ was chosen for the first, and Mr. Roger West,² and Doctr. Stuart for the latter. Dined at Doctr. Cr[ai]lks, and came home in the evening. F[oun]d Mrs. Stuart and her two eldest daughters gone, and Mr. Tracy here.

In my way up, I passed thro' the Plantations of Muddy hole and Dogue Run.

At Muddy hole, sowed the Sainfoin on the grd. allotted for it; which with the White Clover was harrowed in. This had been in soak (being very hard and dry) since friday morning. Also sowed, in the next two squares, or Acre, 8 lbs. of Trefoil; in the 3d Acre or two squares 10 lbs. of Row grass. In the 4th Acre or d[ou]ble Square two bushels of Orchd. grass seeds, and in the last two Squares or Acre 16 lbs. of Red Clover were sown; but the harrow was not able to cross the whole before night. Roller running over Barley 3 or 4 Inches high and 2 or 3 leaves on it. This being pressed down, and appearing to be bruised, I apprehended, notwithstanding it was done by my Farmer's advice that it wd. be injured, and therefore had a place left unrolled in the Middle of the sqr. that was rolling to try the difference. One Plow went from here to French's this Morning and another about Noon after it laid off some grd. for Irish Potatoes, etca. The Women were heap-
ing dung abt. Barn and Farm yard.

¹ John Pope.

² Roger West, of Alexandria, was the son of the Colonel John West who appeared frequently in the earlier diaries.

At Dogue Run, the plows having finished crossing the hoed grd. had returned to crossing the Turnip ground they had left on acct. of the Rain for English Barley. The first was sown with Flax Seed and the harrows covering of it, but for want of a previous harrowing before sowing the Seed was put in very badly and in danger of being buried. Ordered 5 bushls. of Orchard grass to be sown on this grd., to be crossed, harrowed, and the work to be made good with the hoes afterwards, as there were a good many stumps in it. Women hoeing the ground opposite to this.

Tuesday, 22nd. At home all day.

Wednesday, 23d. Visited all the Plantations. In the Neck, the Plows on Monday were Listing, but the Rain yesterday drove them into field No. 9 again, to day, except the one which was laying off Corn Rows. The Harrow on Monday was employed in the ground intended for Flax, and the Hoes following of it, to prepare it for sowing. The Roller was engaged towds. the Afternoon, to Roll the Barley but was stopped yesterday. The Women, Monday, and as much of yesterday as they could work out, were engaged in chopping after the Harrow in the flax ground. To day they were chopping in the Flax which the Overseer was sowing. Grd. in tolerable good order, except having a good many grassy clods, which were not quite broken with the Hoes. The last of the Oats were sown, harrowed within what is now the Orchard Inclosure. This grd. was plowed before Christmas, lately cross-plowed, the seed sown, harrowed in and cross harrowed.

At Muddy hole, the two plows that went to French's continued there. The Harrow (crosswise) all the sqrs. of experimental grd. except that which recd. the Row-grass which was too wet to cross; and went to harrowing by the ground which had been laid off for Potatoes and Jerusalem

Artichokes in No. 3. The Women planted about $\frac{1}{2}$ a bushel of Sweet Potatoes in the same field (all the seed I had in 500 hills) and went to work in the New ground in front of the Mansn. Ho. — the Overseer sowing grass-seeds on clover in fd. No. 1.

At Dogue Run the Orchard grass seeds were sown and harrowed in on the Flax as directed on Monday and afterwards chopped. The ground looks *now* to be in good order. 5 bushels of Flax and 5 bushels of Orchard-grass were sown, qty. of ground, by estimation abt. 3 Acres. The ground on the other side, except a small piece at the lower end, had also been chopped over, but would require to be harrowed (when drier) before it is sown. The Plows having crossed this morning, the Turnip grd. for Barley were laying off and listing in No. 5. The Women were removing the Meadw. fence so as to include the grounds wch. have been lately worked on the sides of it.

Sent the fatting Steers, and an old work oxen to No. 1, at D. Run, to Pasture.

At French's, the remains of the Barley, abt. 7 Bushels, making in all at this place 43 bush. was sown, harrowed in, and was cross harrowing. 4 plows (two from Muddy hole) were breakg. up field No. 5 to sow with Buck Wheat, etca. The Women were cullg. the Sprouts, taking up grubs, etca., in this field.

At the Ferry, the Women were filling gullies in No. 3 and the plows breaking up No. 7.

At the fishing landing there was plenty of custom ¹ and no fish. Last week there was plenty of fish and no custom.

The Wild Oats, and other grass seeds from Colo. Marshall in the Botanical garden was up, and coming up thick — as was the fancy grass in the Vineyard and Inclosure.

Thursday, 24th. Rid to all the plantations.

¹ Customers or purchasers of fish.

In the Neck, finished listing No. 6 for Corn. The ploughs again went into field No. 9 to break it up. Finished sowing flax — 8 bushels on abt. 6 Acres by the Barn; after which the Women went to heaping dung at the farm pen and removing Rails out of the Way.

At Muddy hole, finished sowing grass seeds on Barley in No. 1, but could not harrow it, as the grain was up. Rolling this till the Iron Staple gave way. Two Plows at French's, harrow preparing that part of field No. 3 for Buck Wheat wch. lies East of the branch. Women hoeing in the New ground at the Mansn. Ho.

At Dogue Run, the Plows having overtaken the layer off (for Corn) in field No. 5, went to French's after dinner, 4 of them. The Women finished the lower part of the Meadow fence at this place. Perceived the Clover and timothy which had been sown amongst the Barley and Oats here to be coming up.

At French's, the Farmer finished sowing Barley, Oats and grass seeds in field No. 2 except the rough ground on the East side of it, and harrowed and cross harrowed them all in. The Women were taking up grubs, and cleaning No. 5, in which the Plows fm. Muddy hole and Dogue Run, as well as those belonging to the Plantation were. At the Ferry, the Plows were in No. 7 breaking up for Buck Wheat, the Women were filling gullies — but ordered them to make fence around the Brickyard, and to put up that betwn. No. 2 and 3.

Not many fish caught to day. Two little Carts employed in carrying out the heads and guts of the Fish upon the Corn grd. at the Ferry.

Perceived at the Mansion Ho. that the Burnett which had been sown in the Vineyard inclosure was coming up thick, and that the Fancy grass was also coming up; but could discover nothing of this k[in]d in the everlasting Pease or Seeds from Mr. Percy. Here and there a seed of

the Sulla was to be seen up, but none of the Scarcity plant, or nothing that I thought was it, was discoverable.

Friday, 25th. Rid to all the Plantations.

At the Ferry the same work was going forward as yesterday. But few fish caught this Morning.

Began yesterday to Mould brick Bricks.

At French's, the Plows this Morn'g. began to cross the grd. that had been broke up in the lower Meadow. The drag harrow followed the Plows, and the Women (after they had spread the Dung there) followed the harrow, in order to knock the clods to pieces and remove the grass, to fit it for Oats-Clover, and Orchard grass.

At Dogue Run 1 Plow was laying off, and the Roller going over the Oats; which were 3 or 4 Inches high. The Women were chopping, and preparing the lower end of the Meadow (West side) for Flax seed and grass Seeds. The first sown Flax seed at this place was appearing above grd., as was the Clover and Timothy seeds.

At Muddy hole, planted all the Jerusalem Artichokes, that were preserved — not more than 3 pecks in field No. 3 by the gate. By these Irish Potatoes (red Kind) in 4 feet rows and 10 Inches apart in the Rows were also planting; and adjoining these again, began on the ground that was harrowed yesterday, to sow Buck Wheat at the rate (if directions was attended to) of $\frac{1}{2}$ a bushel to the Acre. The Potatoes were planted, or dropped in the Rows which had been laid off for them, and a furrow turned on them. The ground which had been sown with Barley and Row grass, and which, on acct. of the Rain which fell before the latter could be covered and went unharrowed, was forced to be bushed in to day, the Barley being sprouted.

In the Neck, the Plows were breaking up No. 9 and the Women heaping dung at the Farm yard and removg. Rails

A Mr. Rinaldo Johnston dined here yesterday and went away after it.

Saturday, 26th. Rode to all the Plantations, the Fishing landing and brick Makers.

But few fish caught to day. At the Ferry, the Plows continued breaking up No. 7, the Women puttg. up fence between No. 2 and 3 and round the Brick yard.

At French's, the Plows (same as yesterday) were breaking up No. 3 for Corn, and this was full wet. The ground they crossed yesterday, and began to harrow, in order to prepare it for Oats and grass-seeds was in much worse condition by the Rain of yesterday than it was before the Plows crossed it. The Women were (as yesterday) endeavouring to cleanse it of the grass and rubbish.

At Dogue Run, the Plows were employed as yesterday, and the Women after chopping the ground for Flax in the Meadow were employed in taking up the Persimon grubs in No. 7.

At Muddy hole, the Plows were at French's, as yesterday. The harrow was employed in putting in Buck Wheat in No. 3 So. of the Road in the East cut; in which was sown 4 bushels — too much by one half. This was harrowed in one way, and part South, but not the whole crossed. Finished Planting the Irish Potatoes East part of the above cut $11\frac{1}{4}$ bushls. Covered as yesterday.

In the Neck, the same work, precisely, going on as yesterday.

Monday, 28th. Visited all the Plantations, the fishing landing, Brickyard, and Mill. The continual Rains had so absorbed the ground that scarcely any work could be done to advantage.

At the Ferry, I had assembled the Carts from French's, D. Run, and Muddy hole, with which and the one belong-

ing to the Plantn. the offal of the Fish were carried to field No. 7, where they were spread and plowed in (plows still being in that field). The Women were employed in gathering them into heaps at the landing and spreading them in the field, as also filling the gullies there.

At French's, the Plows (those from D. Run and M. Hole being still there) wd. by dinner have finished breaking up fd. No. 3 for Corn, and were ordered to go next into the middle meadow adjoining to plow a piece of ground for flax. Nothing but necessity, arising from the lateness of the Season, can justify the plowing of the land so wet as it now is.

At D. Run, one plow (as usual) laying off, the Women taking up the grubs in No. 7, and the Men repairing the fencing of No. 1.

At Muddy hole, the Women were levelling the Hills which had been made for Sweet Potatoes (before the defection of the Seed was discovered) in order to sow when the grd. should be dry enough with Flax seed. Sowed the No. side of the little cut, by the gate with Buck Wheat, [] bushls, and harrowed and cross harrowed it in.

In the Neck, as at D. Run, the planting of Corn had been suspended on acct. of the Rains, and extreme wetness of the Earth. The Plows (the work was bad) were still breaking up in No. 9, and the Women heaping dung. Began the brick work of the Dairy at this place to day, and ordered the holes for the Reception of Corn to be made to morrow, altho the Corn shd. not be planted, that the work might be forwarded thereby.

Few fish were caught in the forenoon of this day.

Charles Hagan, the Brickmaker, not at work to day.

No work could be done in the breach of the Mill race to day, on Acct. of the wetness of the Earth.

Tuesday, 29th. Visited all the Plantations.

At the Ferry, the Carts, as yesterday, were taking out the heads, guts, etca.; the Plows in the same field plowing for Buck Wheat and the Women filling up gullies therein.

At French's, the Plows finished the grd. intended for Flax; and went about an hour by sun to breaking up part of No. 5 for Buck Wheat. The Women grubbing, and removing the impediment therein.

At D. Run, 1 Plow was laying off for Corn (the rest at French's). The Women were making a fence around that part of No. 1 which lays East of the swamp intended for English Barley, etca.

At Muddy hole, 1 harrow preparing No. 1 for Buck Wheat, (the Plows 2 at French's). The Women hoeing in the New ground.

At the River Plantation, the Plows finished breaking up that part of No. 9 that lay on the division line, between it and No. 8. The Women havg. finished heaping the dung at the farm pen, began, in the afternoon, to make holes in No. 6 for planting Corn.

No fish caught to day, of any consequence.

Charles Hagan was at work in the Brickyard.

No work on the Breach in the Mill Race on Acct. of the wetness of the earth.

The Ditchers after finishing the Ditch on the ferry Road (about breakfast time) went to Work in a Ditch dividing No. 1 from No. 6.

A Mr. Jayler¹ dined here.

Wednesday, 30th. Visited all the Plantations.

At the Ferry the Plows still in No. 7. The Women, though the ground was extremely wet, had begun to make

¹ Washington was not sure of this name; he erased his first spelling and corrected it in such a hesitant way that the name can be almost anything approximating Nayler, Tayler, Jayler, etc.

holes in No. 2 for planting Corn. Drawing, with the Plantation Carts and Waggon, the Scantling from the landing to the New barn.

At French's, the Ploughs at Work as yesterday, except two in laying off for Corn in No. 2. The Women were repairing fences around field No. 5.

At Dogue Run, one plow laying off for Corn; the Overseer and Women makg. holes to plant it. Ordered all the Stock of every kind to be removed from the Mill Meadow this afternoon.

At the River Plantation, the plows, after breaking up, and listing the farm Pen in No. 6 went (except one) to plow that part of No. 9 which has been lately added, West of the Post and Rail fence; Nat was ordered to Run 3 feet furrows in the Barn yard enclosure for the purpose of hilling more regularly for Pease, Beans, etca. The Women and the rest of the people making Corn holes — ground being too wet to plant.

All the Flax which has hitherto been sown was up, and seemingly well.

Few or no fish caught to day, at the time I was at the landing.

Brick making going on.

The Ditchers, Carpenters, etca., went to work on the breach in the Mill Race to day.

Majr. George Washington returned from below (Colo. Bassett's) to day.

MAY

Thursday, 1st. Visited all the Plantations, the Fishing Landing, Brick yard and Mill.

At the Ferry, the Plows were removed from No. 7 to No. 2, and were plowing for Corn (laying off and listing). The Women were planting of it, but thinking the grd. too wet I

made them desist, and return to making holes for this grain till it should get a little dryer.

At French's, two plows were laying off Rows for Corn in No. 3; the rest seven in Number were breaking up No. 5 for Buck Wheat.

At Dogue Run, one plow continued laying off, the Women, having made holes for Corn as far as the ground was listed, went to making pumkin hills in the angles of the fence ar[oun]d. field No. 5

At Muddy hole, putting in Buck Wheat with one harrow. The Women were at work in the New ground.

In the Neck, the work the same in all respects as yesterday.

Friday, 2nd. Rid to all the Plantations except that in the Neck, and finding the appearances of Rain great, ordered the holes which had been made for Corn at the Ferry, Dogue run and the River Plantation to be immediately planted; and for this purpose, that the Muddy hole hands should assist at Dogue Run, and the hands at French's to go to the Ferry. Accordingly

At Dogue Run, the hands at work there would have planted all the holes by 12 oclock (1). [See (1) *infra*]

At the Ferry, these would be done about dinner time, when others would be made and planted by the two gangs of hands above mentioned. The plows laying off and listing.

At French's, two plows listing as yesterday, and about Noon the others would have finished that part of No. 5 which lyes East of the [] which runs through the field and the two belonging to the Plantation, and one from Muddy hole would begin to list in No. 3. Those belonging to Dogue Run wd. return home.

(1) At Dogue Run, the grd. in the Meadow, west side of it, was sown with flax seed, 2 bushels; and 6 qrts. of Red

Clover seed and 6 qrts. of Timothy seed. The Farmer also began to sow the Engh. Barley on that part of No. 1 at this place which lays East of the Swamp. The grd. in which the above flax was sown was previously harrowed, and twice harrowed afterwards — once for the grain, and again for the Seeds.

At Muddy hole, 1 harrow crossing the Buck Wheat which had been sown.

The Vessel from York River arrived this day with Corn had from Doctr. Stuart from the Plantns. of the decd. Mr. Custis — 290 Barls.

In the afternoon, Mr. Fendal and Mr. Willm. Craik came and stayed all Night.

Saturday, 3d. Mr. Fendall and Mr. Craik went away directly after breakfast and I visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck, all hands except the Plowers and Carters were planting Corn, one plow laying off in the Barn Inclosure for sundries, one harrow for Buck Wheat, 3 plows listing for Car[ro]ts and Cabbages, 2 Teams in the Waggon Carting Rails to the fence betwn fields No. 8 and 9.

At Muddy hole, two of the Plows still at French's, harrow putting in (or crossing Buck Wheat), Women making Pumpkin hills in the borders of No. 3.

At Dogue Run, one harrow was covering the Barley which was sown agreeably to the order of yesterday, viz. 8 bushls. of that sent by Mr. Young,¹ about a peck from Genl. Spotswood, and about a pottle² of the Naked Barley

¹ Hugh Young, of Baltimore; born in Clenarle, County Donegal, Ireland, and came to America about the beginning of the Revolution. He was a member of the Whig Club and figured prominently in the attack on William Goddard, owner of the *Maryland Journal*, suspected of Tory leanings. He married Mary Selden, daughter of Colonel Cary Selden, of Virginia. Their daughter married Robert Purviance, a leading merchant of Baltimore and an active patriot in the Revolution.

² A pottle has a liquid measure value of four pints; as dry measure (barley) it may have been just a small wicker basket.

(Colo. Lee's sort.) The first was on the South Side and adjoining the Road, the other two in the *next* land, North of it; the Naked Barley in the East part of it, up to two stakes. On this Barley were sown 32 lbs. of Hop Clover seed (from Engd.)

At French's, Two plows were laying off and 2 listing; the Cart employed in getting up the Scantling, etca. to the Barn. Overseer, Women and boys assisting in Planting Corn at the Ferry.

At the Ferry, the Plows were laying off and listing for Corn, and the other hands planting of it.

Few or no fish being caught to day I ordered them to discontinue drawing the Sein after Monday, unless they were successful that day.

Monday, 5th. Visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck, except the plow that was laying off, the rest were cross plowing the rough parts of No. 9 for Buck Wheat 5 in number, 2 teams in the Waggon, drawing Rails to inclose it. A harrow also preparing for Buck Wheat in this field.

At Muddy hole, 1 harrow preparing for and putting in Buck Wheat Overseer planting of Pumpkin Seed, and the rest of the hands (except the two plow people at French's) working in the New ground.

At Dogue Run, the harrow finished crossing the Seeds that were sown in No. 1 on Saturday, 1 plow laying off in No. 5 for Corn, and 3 listing after it. Finished planting Pumpkins around the above field in the laps of the fence, etca., and then went to making holes for Planting Corn.

At French's, two plows laying off, and two listing. The Overseer and the rest of the hands (except the Carter) planting Water Mellen Seeds. Cart drawing Logs and other trash from the Meadw. to the gullies in No. 5.

At the Ferry, the Plows were at Work as yesterday. The other hands were planting Corn.

No fish being caught to day I ordered the Hogsheads, and everything else to be secured, and the People to repair to their respective places and businesses.

Tuesday, 6th. At home all day.

Wednesday, 7th. Visited all the Plantations, Mill, and Brick yard.

In the Neck, five plows and 2 Harrows were preparing for, and putting in Buck Wheat; one laying off as before, for Pease, etca., in the Barn Inclosure. Yesterday sowed 13 Rows (betwn. the Corn in No. 6) with Carrots. These Rows were first listed as for Corn (the Middle furrow being deepned), than a light triangular harrow was run twice, and oftener where the ground was cloddy or rough, to level and make it fine. The Seed, (a pint being mixed in half a bushel of Ashes) was next sown, so thick as that one could be seen within an inch and half of another, and covered with a bush harrow. The rest of the People were planting Corn. Finished the brick work of the Dairy here yesterday.

At Muddy hole, one harrow preparing for, and putting in Buck Wheat, One Woman planting Mellons by the Overseer's House, and the rest of the People at Work in the New ground at the Mansion house, preparing for Corn.

At Dogue Run, One harrow putting in the Indian Pease and Clover in that part of No. 1 East of the Swamp, and adjoining the Barley. Of the Pease 4 bushels were sown, and the Farmer thinks two [too] thin, especially the North part; for he thinks there are 5 Acres in pease. Of the Clover 5 lbs. were sown. Four plows were listing for, and the other people planting of Corn.

At French's, two ploughs were laying off, and three were listing. The Drag harrow was harrowing the grd. in the

lower Meadow to prepare it for Oats and grass Seeds. The other People were plantg. Corn.

At the Ferry, the plows were listing and the other people of Corn.

At the Mill, the hands had so nearly completed the repairs of the Race that I ordered the Carpenters to quit it to Night, and the Mill people to finish it.

Thursday, 8th. Visited the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run, and Muddy hole, also the Brick yard and Mill Race.

At the Ferry, the Ploughs wd. have finished to day laying off and listing for Corn in field No. 2, and the People would about finish planting Corn, when they were ordered to join the hands at French's for that purpose. A plow and harrow would begin to prepare some of the intermediate Rows for Carrots.

At French's, the plows having finished laying off were (4 of them) listing, 2 harrows were *attempting* to prepare the ground in the lower Meadow for Oats and grass Seeds, but from wetness, Clodiness, ecta., it was badly executed. Having an Acct. of the arrival of a Barrel of Barley frm. Minorca, I directed that part of the ground in the upper Meadow wch. had been sown in Summer Wheat and Beans, (neither of which had come up) to be plowed up, to receive this grain.

At Dogue Run, only finished this morning, to harrow for the last time the grd. in No. 1 which had recd. the 4 bushels of Pease and 55 lbs. of Clover Seed. Also finished listg. No. 5 for Corn, and began with one plow and harrow to list, sow, and harrow in Carrots, between the Corn Rows. After the Plows had left No. 5 they went, in the evening, to plow in the Middle Meadow which had been hoed. The other hands were planting Corn.

At Muddy hole, one harrow was preparing for, and put-

ting in Buck Wheat. All the other hands were at work in the New grd. at Mansn. House.

Mr. and Mrs. Porter and Mr. Monshur came here to dinner and stayed all Night, and in the evening Colo. Harry Lee and Doctr. Craik came in and did the same.

Friday, 9th. I remained at home all day. Colo. Lee went away before breakfast and Doctr. Craik soon after it.

To dinner Mrs. Craik and Mr. and Mrs. Roger West came and after it, with Mr. and Mrs. Porter and Mr. Monshur, returned to their respective homes. Doctr. Craik, who had been to Portobacco, got back in the eveng.

Saturday, 10th. Visited all the Plantations.

At the Ferry all the Corn, except a small piece of the No. Et. Corner of the field was planted on thursday, and this the excessive Rains and consequent wetness of the Earth rendered impracticable. After wch. all the ground, which from the same causes could be hilled was planted with Pumpkins. The Rains prevented any preparation of the grd. at this place for Carrots. The plows, therefore, went yesterday to breaking ground in field No. 7 as the only spot they could do tolerably good work in. The Women I sent to day to the New grd. at the Mansn. Ho. to assist the Muddy hole People.

At French's, no plowing cd. be done and but little anything else. About 10 Oclock I ordered 4 plows from this place to join those at the Ferry in No. 7. Some of the Women were making Pumpkin hills (tho' the grd. was too wet for it). On thursday afternoon about half the ground in the lower Meadow at this place was sown with Oats, but there not being time to sow grass seeds thereon, the wet has prevented it since, and now there can be no cross harrowing as the grain will be up before Tuesday.

At Dogue Run, the Plows were all stopped, and all

hands were making, or finishing the Pole fence round the Barley and Pease in field No. 1.

At Muddy hole, no harrowing, all the People that were well were in the New grd. at the Mansn. House.

In the Neck, the Plows, tho' the ground was very wet, was crossing for Buck Wheat. The other hands, after having made the fence betwn. fields 8 and 9 (as Rails were in place 6 or 7 to a pannel) began to make Pumpkin hills; but the grd. being wet did not plant Seed. No Buck Wheat sown here since Thursday on Account of the Wet.

Doctr. Craik went away after breakfast, and Mr. Harts-horn came in before Dinner to get notices (to the subscribers to the Potomack Co. that motions would be made for judgments upon their arrearages at the next Genl. Court) signed. He returned after dinner.

Sunday, 11th. At home all day.

Counted the number of the following articles which are contained in a pint: viz. of

The small round pease commonly called Gentleman's Pease	3144
Those brot. from York Rivr. by Majr. G. Washington...	2268
Do. Those brot. from Mrs. Dangerfield's.....	1375
Those given by Hezh. Fairfax.....	1330
Large, and early black eye Pease.....	1186
Bunch hominy Beans.....	1473

Accordingly, a bushel of the above, allowing 5 to a hill, will plant the number of hills wch. follow: viz.

1st Kind.....	40243	4th Kind.....	17024
2. Ditto.....	29030	5. Ditto.....	15180
3. Ditto.....	17200	6. Ditto.....	18854

Monday, 12th. Went, in Company with Colo. Humphreys to Mr. Rogers. Dined and returned in the afternoon.

Tuesday, 13th. Visited all the Plantations and the Brick yard.

At the Ferry, 6 plows were at work in No. 7, viz. 3 belonging to the Plantation, 2 from French's, and 1 from Muddy hole. Two Men were Planting the remainder of the Corn ground; and the Women were in the New grd. at the Mansn. House.

At French's, the drag was harrowing the ground intended for flax with oxen. One Plow (from Muddy hole, was reploting the ground which had received the Spring Wheat, and English Beans, that did not come up, in order to sow it with Barley from Minorca. The double harrow was putting in the remainder of the Oats in the lower Meadow wch. could not (on acct. of the wet) be done on Saturday last. (the other hands were planting Corn). [] bushl. Oats sown.

At Morris's, that is Dogue Run, all hands were on the New grd. at the Mansn. House; Plow people as well as others. The English Barley sown at this place in fd. No. 1 was up, but rather thin. The naked barley was also up, and pretty thick; but of that sent me by General Spotswood very little appeared. The Pease were sprouting, and some coming up wch. were sown in this field, adjoining the Barley.

At Muddy hole, one harrow was preparing for, and putting in Buck Wheat. The other hands were in the New ground at the Mansn. House.

In the Neck, finished planting Pumpkins around the Corn fd. No. 6, and the Women began to hill in the Barn Inclosure for Pease, 5 plows turning into 3 feet Ridges the ground (which had been laid off this distance) before them, to expedite the work. Two harrows preparing for, and putting in Buck Wheat. Waggon Carting Rails for the fence between fields No. 8 and 9. The first planted Corn at this place was coming up, but looked yellow. The first sowed Oats and Barley here, in No. 2, looks very well, appearing to be very little injured by the Wet, the first not at all.

Wednesday, 14th. Visited all the Plantations.

At the Ferry, the Plows of the Plantation were still in No. 7. Those of French's and Muddy hole returned to the former. The two Ferry men were planting Pumpkins after finishg. Plantg. Corn [and] drawing Rails to the fence between fields No. 3 and 4. The other hands were at the New grd. as yesterday.

At French's, four plows were listing, One harrow leveling the plowing intended for the Minorca Barley before sowing and harrowing it in afterwards — $3\frac{1}{2}$ Bushls. This appears to be a large rough grain, called by some of the People about Me Bear, and esteemed a Winter grain. My Farmer sowed Red Clover and Orchard grass Seeds on the Oats in the lower Meadow at this place, but these were not harrowed — intended to be Rolled. Planting Corn here.

At Dogue Run, five plows began to break up field No. 7 for B[uck] Wheat as a preparative for Wheat. The other hands were at the New ground. Only 5 Rows had yet been sown at this place with Carrots, and a piece had been planted with the [] Cabbage, wch. appeared to be growing very well. The Self sown Buck Wheat here (wch. stands pretty thick on the grd.) is blossoming, tho' much of it is not more than 4 Inchs. high, and scarcely any more than 8 Inches. The New River grass (which appears to be a coarse kind of grass) is beginning to seed, as well that which was sown broad as that that is in drills.

At Muddy hole, one harrow preparing for and putting in Buck Wht., the others (such as are well) are at Work in the New grd. as yesterday. The B Wheat at this place and in the Neck that was up looked red and sickly as tho' it had been hurt with frost.

In the Neck, precisely the same work was going on to day as yesterday. In the ground which had been ridged here for Pease, etca., 5 Men (besides the Overseer, who

only worked occasionally), 11 Women, and one boy made 72 rows of Hills, which rows would average about 300 hills each — in the whole, betwn. 21 and 22 thousand hills in the day.

Thursday, 15th. Visited all the Plantations and the Brick yard, where a small kiln of Brk. were forming to Burn.

At the Ferry, the plows having finished breaking up No. 7 for Buck Wheat had returned to the Corn field No. 2, and were listing a few Rows to sow with Carrots, and plant with Cabbages between the Corn. The two Ferry men were still planting Pumpkins. The Women were in the New grd. at the Mansn. House.

At French's, the plows were yet listing, but would finish to day after which, one would list betwn. the Corn Rows, for Carrots and Cabbages, and the others would go into No. 5 to break the grd. up for Pease. The other hands were planting Corn. Cross harrowing the Barley that was sown yesterday, and putting the remainder of the grd. in Flax.

At Dogue Run, five Women were planting the remainder of the Corn grd. wch. on Acct. of the Wet had been left undone; 4 plows were breaking up No. 7, and one of the dble. Harrows was harrowing between the Corn Rows, to prepare it the better for plowing. The other hands were in the New grd. at the Mansn. House.

At Muddy hole, one harrow was preparing for, and putting in B: Wheat, the other hands were at the N: Grd. At this place the Irish Potatoes and Jerusalem Artichokes were coming up, as was the Flax (which had been sown before the last Rains, tho' not noted at the time) — one bushel.

In the Neck, forty Rows of the Hills in the Barn Inclosure (South side next the fence) were planted with the bunch hominy beans, 5 in a hill. These 40 Rows would

make about 12,000 hills. Directed the Cabbage plants to be set out betwn. the Corn Rows, in No. equal to those of the Carrots. Hilling, plowing, Harrowing for (with two Harrows) and putting in B[uck] Wheat as usual.

At the Mansion House, in the Vineyard Inclosure, I planted 3 Rows of the Seeds of the Scarcity Root; the rows one yard apart, and the seeds 18 Inches asunder. In the first two Rows, a single seed (being picked ones) *only* was planted; in the third row, two seeds (being more indifferent) were planted; next to these, below, the plants of this root in 11 Rows were transplanted, according to directions; and next to them, in an equal No. of Rows, that is 14 (the same distance apart), was sown the Red Horn Carrots, (had from Mr. Prager). Both these squares had Stable dung (from the long shed) at the rate of $11\frac{1}{2}$ bushels to every square rod, or $16\frac{1}{2}$ feet, put on them. The like will be done on the same qty. of grd. adjoining for Irish Potatoes, that a comparative view may be taken of the yield and value of these vegetables. The hills for Corn in the New Grd. (the part cleared this year) would be compleated to day. Hills begun in the old ground to morrow and planting begun thro the whole.

Friday, 16th. Visited the Ferry, French's, and Dogue Run Plantations.

At the Ferry, the Plows were breaking up No. 3. Three Women were planting Cabbages from French's — finished 3 rows. Before I got there they had planted them at two feet asunder in the Rows, but I altered it to 3 feet. Sowed nine Rows of Carrots here to day, 4 pints of seed. The other Women were employed in the New ground at M. Ho.

At French's, Sowing and harrowing in Flax Seed, south side of the Meadow adjoining the Corn fd. One team listing and harrowing for Carrots, 3 Plows breaking up No. 5.

The other people planting Corn. This was done up to a green Oak about the Middle of the field with the Corn from the Neck (Lee's Corn). They then began on the East side of the field and planted with the sort brought from Mr. Custis's Estate on Pomunky. The Ditchers after breakfast to day began to work on the line between No. 1 and 2.

At Dogue Run, finished Planting Corn and Sowing Carrot Seed. Of the latter 15 Rows were sown which must have been greatly too thin. Planted $1\frac{1}{2}$ rows of Cabbages which makes 4 in all planted at this place. No more plants large enough to transplant. About Noon 4 plows began to cross the unoccupied Corner of No. 6 in order to sow it with Oats.

At Muddy hole, one harrow preparing for and putting in Buck Wheat. The rest that were well were planting Corn in the New ground.

A Mr. Van Praddle, and a Mr. Duplaine, and Colo. Gilpin dined here and returned in the Afternoon.

Saturday, 17th. Visited all the Plantations and the Brick yard.

At the Ferry, the Plows were at work as yesterday, and the Women in the New ground. As (besides the three whole Rows of Cabbages which were planted yesterday) three Rows were begun but not finished with the Cabbage plants taken from F[renc]h's, I directed these Rows, and three others making 9 in all (equal to the Number in Carrots) to be planted from the Farmer's beds; the Seed from which they came being sent by Mr. Peacy.

At French's, five and half bushels of Flax Seed were sown on the grd. which had been prepared for it in the Middle Meadow (adjoining the Corn ground), and at the East end of it, to a stake, about half a bush. of a Seed sent to me by the Stage (but when or by whom, it having lain by for sometime is not recollected) was sown; mixed with

Red Clover. This seed was either Orchard or Rye Grass from the appearance of it, but seemed rather large for the former. The other part of the Ground was sown with Clover and Timothy mixed. This ground by frequent harrowing appeared to be got in very good order. After these Seeds were harrowed in, the Harrow was ordered into No. 5 to prepare the grd. that had been plowed there, South side, for Buck Wheat. The ploughs were at Work as usual, and the other hands were plantg. Corn. Sowed $3\frac{1}{2}$ pints Carrot seeds in 8 Rows.

At Dogue Run, finished Plantng. Corn about 10 oclock, and not yesterday as was expected, after which the hands that did it, went to chopping the hoed grd. in the Middle Meadw. The plows were crossing as yesterday, and the other hands at the New grd. at the Mansn. House.

At Muddy hole, the Harrow preparing for and putting in Buck Wheat, the other hands planting Corn, etca., at the New ground.

In the Neck, six plows and two Harrows were preparing for and putting in Buck Wheat, 1 plow laying off for Pea hills — the rest of the hands making these. Yesterday, at this place, next the (40) Rows of Bunch hominy beans was planted one Row of a small parcel of Pease brought by Majr. G. Washington from Mrs. Dangerfield's as a valuable kind; next to these were *two* Rows more of a sort given to me by Hezekiah Fairfax, said also to be a fine kind; and next to these two Rows, the Planting of the large, white black eye Pease (early sort) commenced.

Mrs. Morris, Miss Morris,¹ and her two Sons ² (lately arrived from Europe) came here about 11 Oclk., and to Dinner came Mr. Hunter, a Mr. Braithwait, and Mr. McPherson,³ who returned to Alexandria afterwards.

¹ Mrs. Robert Morris, and Miss Maria Morris.

² Robert, Jr., and Thomas Morris.

³ Of the firm of D. & J. McPherson, Alexandria.

Sunday, 18th. At home all day.

About one O'Clock, Colo. Andrew Lewis of Bottetout came in, dined, and returned to Alexandria in the afternoon.

Monday, 19th. Rid to the Ferry and French's Plantations, and to the Brick yard.

At the Ferry, two plows were at Work breaking up No. 3; the harrow was preparing No. 7 for the Reception of Buck Wheat; two Ferry men were planting Cabbages (of Mr. Peacy's kind, as already mentioned), and the other hands were at Wk. in the New ground.

At French's, four Plows were breaking up No. 5; two harrows crossing in do. for sowing Buck Wheat, one of them having got there about Noon, from Muddy hole; where all the Buck Wheat intended for that place, was put in, and covered. The other hands were planting Corn.

Tuesday, 20th. Rid in Company with Mrs. Morris, Mrs. Washington, the two Mr. Morris's and Colo. Humphreys to my Mill, and returned home thro' French's and the Ferry Plantations and by the Brick yard.

Began to Sow Buck Wheat to day at the Ferry — business in other respects at the above places going on as yesterday.

Finished planting Corn in the New ground at the Mansn. House on the No. side of the Road.

Doctr. Craik came here to Breakfast, proceeded on to Portobacco and returned in the afternoon. Mrs. Craik, Mrs. Porter, and Mr. Munsher came here to dinner and returned in the Afternoon.

Wednesday, 21st. Visited all the Plantations, and the Brick yard.

In the Neck, the Plows and harrows were preparing for,

and putting in Buck Wheat, and the other hands were planting the Early black eye pease.

At Muddy hole, all the hands except those with the Plows and harrows (at French's) were in the New ground at the Mansion house.

At Dogue Run, the Plows having crossed the grd. in No. 6, had returned to No. 7, the harrow was putting in Oats and Barley in the former. The other hands, after transplanting a Row and half of Carrots between the Corn Rows in No. 5, returned to the New grd. at the Mansn. Ho.

At French's, four plows were breaking up the West cut of No. 5, and two harrows were preparing for, and putting in Buck Wheat in the East cut. The other hands were planting Corn in No. 3.

At the Ferry, one harrow was preparing for, and putting in Buck Wheat, two plows were plowing Corn, beginning on the South side. The other hands (yesterday afternoon and this Morning) were transplanting Carrots. A quarter part of the one Row end, next the sown Carrots, had a little part of the Tap Root taken off, the next $\frac{1}{4}$ of this, had the top Cut off; the other two quarters were planted as they were taken out of the Bed. After doing this they went to the New ground.

In my Botanical garden, I transplanted two Roots of the Scarcity plant, but they were so dry and appeared to be so perished, as to leave little hope of their ever vegetating. Also (in the same place), from a Box which came by the Philadelphia Packet, I set out a number of cuttings of what I took to be the Lombardy Poplar. These had been so long in Moss as to have white sprouts issuing from many of the buds, at least two or three Inches long.

Thursday, 22d. Mrs. Morris, having (by the Stage of yesterday) Received a request from Mr. Morris to proceed

to Richmond, set off for that place abt. 9 O'clock this Morning, with her two Sons and daughter. Colo. Humphreys and myself accompanied her to Colchester, and returned to dinner. Found Mr. Rozer here, and soon afterwards came in a Mr. Andrews from Peterburgh. The first went after dinner, the other stayed all Night.

Began to lay the foundation of my Barn, for the Ferry and French's Plantations, of Brick.

Friday, 23d. Visited the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, and Neck, and the Brick Yd.

At French's, three Ploughs and two harrows were at work, the first preparing for Pease, the latter for, and putting in Buck Wheat. The other hands planting Corn.

At the Ferry, one harrow preparing for and putting in Buck Wheat, two plows weeding Corn, and the other hands at Work in the New ground at the Mansn. House.

At Dogue Run, all hands (Plow People as well as others) were planting Corn in the New ground at the Home Ho., the Plows being stopped by the Rain.

At Muddy hole, except the Plow People, the others were planting Corn at the Mansn. House, the doing of which was compleated this afternoon; and all hands went to Hoeing up the Balks between, beginning on the No. side, next the Road.

In the Neck, the Plows began to weed every other Corn Row, turning the furrow from the Corn. Two harrows were at Work, preparg. for, and putting in, Buck Wheat. The other hands were employed in planting the Black eye Pease.

Saturday, 24th. Rid to all the Plantations.

At the Ferry and French's, same work as yesterday. Finishd planting Corn.

At Dogue Run, four plows began to Weed Corn, and at

the same time to prepare the ground for Potatoes. The plowing, this first time, as is the case in the Neck, and at the Ferry, turned the Furrow *from* the Corn. The other hands were at the New grd.

Muddy hole people employed as yesterday.

In the Neck, one plow (in the Corn) was stopped, and two single harrows put to work in its place, to harrow the grd. which they had gone over, to render it more fit for the reception of Potatoes. The other hands were planting Pease which they would go near to finish to Night.

Mrs. Geo. Washington and Child, and Doctr Lyon,¹ came here before breakfast this Morning, from Maryland.

Sunday, 25th. Doctr. Stuart, Mrs. Stuart, and her three oldest daughters and Miss Nancy Stuart came here to dinner and stayed all Night. Mr. Waltr. Stone came to dinner and went away after it.

Monday, 26th. Visited the Plantations at the Ferry, French's and Dogue Run.

At the Ferry, the ground being wet, the Women worked in the New ground at the Mansion House. Two plows weeding Corn, and preparing for the Reception of Potatoes.

At French's, the Plows and Harrow were at work as before. The other People were planting, and replanting Pumpkins. The Cart, as it had been for many days, was assisting the Ferry Cart in getting Rails to inclose No. 3 at that Plantation.

At Dogue Run, began to Plant Potatoes in the West side of the Corn field. The Plows and harrow were preparing for it. Sowed with Oats the last of the ground between the Corn and Wheat in No. 6.

Added Thos. Davis, Reuben, and Billy to the Brick-

¹ Dr. James Lyon, of the Eastern Shore.

layers to day, by which means five were thus employed. The necessary attendance was given them.

Also set Gunner to making Bricks, along with Charles Hagan, with attendance also.

Tuesday, 27th. Rid to all the Plantations.

In the Neck, two harrows were preparing for, and putting in Buck Wheat; Seven plows and one harrow Weeding Corn and preparing for the reception of Potats. between the Rows; the other hands replanting of Corn. Finished planting of Pease here yesterday, the last [] rows of which, No. side were of the small round Gentleman Pease, the others (except the 3 Rows formerly noted — one of Fairfax's sort, and two of Mrs. Dangerfield's) were of the large and early blackeye. Planted pumpkins between the Pease and Corn.

At Muddy hole, the Plows and Harrow were as usual at French's. All the other hands, with three Women from French's, were hoeing balks in the New ground. The Irish Potatoes at this place were all up, and few or none missing; but do not look very flourishing. The Artichokes (Jerusalem) on the contrary were very much missing.

At Dogue Run, the Plows and Harrows were at Work in the Corn preparing for the Reception of Potatoes; but the latter being employed yesterday to put in the Oats, the Women this forenoon were engaged in Hoeing up the swamp in the Middle Meadow, till they (that is the Harrows) could make way for them again.

At French's, the Plows, Harrows and Cart, at work as on yesterday, the Overseer, one Woman and a boy were replanting Water Mellons etca. Three Women as before mentioned were in the N: Ground.

Set the Ditchers yesterday to levelling the dirt which remained by the sunk fence in front of the Mansion House.

Doctr. Stuart and family went away after breakfast.

Wednesday, 28th. Rid to the Ferry, French's, and Dogue Run Plantations, and to the Brick-yard.

At the Ferry, finished this Morning replanting of Corn and began on the South side of the field to plt. Potatoes between the Corn Rows. The Plows and harrows were at the same work, and for the same purposes as yesterday. A light harrow drawn by the two mules from Muddy hole was set to work (in addition) to day, to harrow after the Plows for Potatoes.

At French's, finished Sowing the Buck Wheat but not harrowing it in. Nor will the ground (at least part of it) be well prepared, having got too hard for the harrows to penetrate deep enough to stir up a sufficient depth of Earth. This circumstance and many others, which from time to time have occurred has convinced me that on putting in all Sprg. Crops (as the Season produces heavy and frequent Rains and the ground apt to bake) it would be best to plow, harrow and sow in such squares as are proportioned to the size of the farms, and strength of the teams, than to break the whole up first; unless *repeated* plowings is intended and can be given. The Plows finished breaking up the West pt. of field No. 5 at this place, and were ordered into the Corn field to weed, and prepare that for Potatoes. Replanting Corn here (3 hands at the New grd.) and Rolling the Oats and grass in the lower Meadow.

At Dogue Run, the Plows and Harrows were (as yesterday) weeding Corn and preparing for the Planting of Potatoes. The other hands planting them, and when the Plows were overtaken replanted Corn.

Began, yesterday, with the Carpenters and Cowpers to cut grass and make Hay, and with Thomas Green and Mahony to frame the lower floor of the Barn which is about. This day, after manuring in the same proportion which had been done for the Plants of Scarcity and for Carrots, I planted adjoining the latter, 14 Rows (the same

as had been done of the other two) of Irish Potatoes, Red sort, and whole, 3 feet apart, and the sets 9 Inches asunder; and below these again in Rows 3 feet apart, I sowed 5 of lucern.

Thursday, 29th. Visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck, all the Plows and Harrows were at Work in the Corn, weeding the same and preparing the intervals between the Rows for the reception of Potatoes in drills. Began yesterday afternoon to plant the latter, having finished replanting Corn, and Pumpkins. Examined the Oats here, growing from Spotswood's Seed, which are very fine; the Wheat in No. 7 is thin, in places None, having been injured both by the Frost of Winter and the Rains of this Spring. The Barley is but indifferent being in places low, thin, and yellow at bottom.

At Muddy hole, except the Plow people at French's, all hands were at Work in the New ground.

At Dogue Run the Plows and Harrows were weeding Corn and preparing for the reception of Potatoes. The other hands, when the plows were overtaken by the latter work, were replanting of Corn.

At French's, the Plows were weeding Corn, the Harrows after breakfast, began to cross the plowing for Pease, in order to prepare the grd. for the reception of them. The Roller had finished Rolling the Oats in lower Meadow, and returned to the Carting of Rails at French's. The other hands were replanting of Corn.

At the Ferry, the Plows and a single harrow, drawn by the Mules, were weeding Corn and preparing for Potatoes; the double harrows were putting in Buck Wheat wch. would be compleated to morrow. The other hands were planting Potatoes.

In the afternoon, a Mr. Walke and a Mr. Woodville came in and stayed all Night.

Friday, 30th. Visited the Plantations at the Ferry, French's and Dogue Run.

At the first, finished sowing Buck Wheat. In every other respect the work was the same as yesterday.

At French's, it was precisely the same as it was yesterday at this place. And the same likewise at Dogue Run.

Began to cut such parts of the Clover in No. 1 at French's, as stood sufficiently thick, having cut the bleu grass on the sides of the lower Meadow at this place.

Having worked up the Bricks of the first Kiln, the Bricklayers went to get and lay in a stock of sand; but the second load of Corn from York River arriving, the Boat would be occupied in landing of it tomorrow.

Mr. Ludwell Lee and his Lady came here this afternoon and stayed ye N:

Saturday, 30th. The ground being wet, I transplanted the remains of my plants of the Scarcity Root (to make good the dificiency of the last transplanting) except some of the smallest of them which were intended not to be removed, but by remaining to prove the efficacy of both modes.

After an early dinner, in company with Colo. Humphrey's I set out for a Meeting of the Directors of the Potomack Company to be held at the Falls of Shenandoah on Monday next. Reached Mr. Fairfax's about an hour by Sun, who with his lady were at Alexandria; but a cloud which threatened rain induced us notwithstanding to remain there all night.

JUNE

Sunday, 1st. About Sun rise, we set out for the Great Falls, where having met Mr. Smith (the assistant Manager who resides at the Works at the Seneca falls) we examined the Canal, banks and other operations at this place, and

were pleased to find them in such forwardness and so well executed. The upper part of the Canal, however, still requires to be widened, stones, etca., removed out of it and the lower side banked. From hence we proceeded by a small cut, and wall about a mile higher up the River to the Seneca falls, where much digging and blowing had been performed for the purpose of conducting the Navigation through one of the Marshes on the Virginia side, and a good deal of Substantial Wall erected; but the whole being in a rude and unfinished state no judgment could be formed of the time necessary to execute it; but Mr. Smith supposes 20 hands will be able to accomplish it this Summer, as a like number wd. do that at the Great falls above the Lock Seats. At this place we breakfasted, and in Company with Mr. Smith continued our journey. Dined at Leesburgh and lodged at Mr. Jno. Hough's.

Monday, 2d. About 5 O'clock, after an early breakfast, we set off, piloted by Mr. Hough thro' by Roads, over the Short hills, by the House and Mill of one Belt, for the Mo. of Shenandoah, where we arrived partly by a good, and partly by a rugged Road, at half after eight o'clock — distance about 12 Miles. Soon after came Govr. Johnson, and about 10 O'clock, Govr. Lee and Colo. Gilpin arrived. We then, together, crossed the River, walked up to the head of the Canal on the Maryland side and viewed all the Works. Found that the Canal at the head was accomplished, and appeared to be well walled on both sides; and a tow path on the Maryland side for some distance below; but that much of the work remained yet to do. How[eve]r, the supposition is, that it may be so far compleated as to open the navigation in the course of the summer for the passage of Boats, tho' much more labour will be necessary to perfect it. After dinner the board set, proceeded to the examination of Sundry accts. and other business which

came before them; but that for which it principally met at *this place*, viz. an investigation of complaints exhibited against Mr. Richardson Stuart, was postponed on acct. of his non-attendance, occasioned as was said by a Law suit in the Genl. Court at Annapolis at which he was obliged to be prest. The board, however, conceiving that a manager without an assistant was suffict. to superintend the works, and thinking Mr. Smith the most competent of the two, resolved to discontinue Mr. Stuart at the expiration of the year for which he was engaged, viz. the 15th of July, and to rest the chief direction in him.

Tuesday, 3d. Having accomplished all the business that came before the board by 10 Oclock, the Members sepe-
rated, and I (Colo. Humphreys having returned the day before) went to my Brother's about eight miles off, dined there, and continued on in the Afternoon to Colonel Warner Washington's, where I spent the evening.

Wednesday, 4th. About 7 Oclock I left this place, Fairfield, bated at a small Tavern (Bacon fort) 15 Miles distant, dined at the Tavern of one Lacey,¹ 14 Miles further and lodged at Newgate 16 Miles lower down.

Thursday, 5th. After an early breakfast I continued my journey by the upper and lower Churches of this Parish and passing through my Plantations at Dogue Run, French's, and the Ferry, and the New Barn, I reached home about Noon in about 28 Miles riding, where I found Colo. Humphreys who had just got in before me from Abingdon.

On Saturday, the Ditchers finished Weeding the honey locusts in the Vineyard; planted in the No. Garden, be-

¹ This was the tavern formerly known as West's, at which Washington had stopped many times in the past when crossing the Blue Ridge at Williams's (Snickers) Gap.

tween the Green house and quarter 10 grains of early Corn, given to me (from So. Carolina) by Genl. Spotswood; and finished replanting Corn at Dogue Run.

On Monday, finished plantg. every other Corn Row with Potatoes at Dogue Run, and began the intermediate ones (next the Carrots). Planting Potatoes at the Ferry, after repairing the Fencing which had blown down at this place and French's. Listing and harrowing for Potatoes at all the Plantns. Finished cutting grass (that was fit for it) at French's about 12 Oclock to day, but the Rains had much injured the first Hay. Sent Materials for the Dairy in the Neck to day, Churns, etca.

On Tuesday, Muddy hole People, as had been the case at the Ferry, Dogue Run, etca., had cut Rye out of their Wheat and were hoeing baulks in the New grd. At the Ferry the Potatoe planters having overtaken the Plows and Harrows, went to Weeding Corn with their hoes, as was the case at French's, that is weeding Corn with Hoes. Made the Pole fence at D. Run, Round the English Barley in field No. 1. Chopped in (the Potatoe Planters having overtaken the Hoes and harroes) Oats and Timothy seed in the ground that had been prepared in the swamp, in the Middle Meadow at this place. At the River every other Row of Potatoes had been planted, and up to the farm pen of the intermediate ones; when the Plows being overtaken the Planters were employed in Weeding Water Mellons and taking Wheat from the Rye.

Seperated the Rams from the Ewes. Finished landing Corn from Chamberlain's Vessel, viz. 425 at the Mill and 1004 at the Mansn. House.

On Wednesday, transplanted part of a Row of Carrots to compleat an unfinished one at the ferry. Recd. 10,000 ft. of Inch pine plank from Messrs. Peterson and Tayler.¹ Discharged Mr. Chamberlin's Vessel.

¹ Of Alexandria.

Friday, 6th. Visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck, the Plows and harrows were Weeding Corn, and preparing for the Reception of Potatoes between; the other hands were planting them till they overtook the harrows; then employed in taking Rye from Wheat, Shearing Sheep, etca.

At Muddy hole, except the Plow people, the other hands were engaged in the New ground at the Mansn. House, assisted by the Dogue run hands.

At Dogue Run, the Plows and harrows were Weeding Corn, and preparing for the Reception of Potatoes. The other hds. were (as above) at the New grd., except 2 Shearing of Sheep.

At French's, the ground being too wet to plant and cover Potatoes, I ordered the People (except those with the Plows and harrows) to Weed Corn, and cut Rye from the Wheat. Harrowing in Pease in the West part of field No. 5. This was done after the ground had been plowed and twice harrowed, 3 harrowings afterwards; but notwithstanding the ground by the frequent and hard Rains which had fallen after it was plowed, was settled and too closely bound together.

The Hay at this place was opened and stirred, but had received great injury.

At the Ferry, the plows and harrows were weeding Corn and preparing for Potatoes; the hoes, the grd. being too wet to plant them, were weeding Corn.

Saturday, 7th. Visited the Ferry, and French's Plantations.

At the first, the Plows and harrows were at Work as usual, and the other hands planting Potatoes; but as the ground was very heavy (especially in places) I directed them to desist and go to Weeding Corn.

At French's the People were planting Potatoes, but im-

properly on account of the wetness of the ground; Plows in the Corn and one harrow following them, two harrowing in Pease.

Finished yesterday afternoon hoeing up the balks in the *New* part of the New grd. and went to replanting the Corn there, which would be compleated to day.

Ditchers after having made up the fence along the ferry Road were about a similar one at French's between fields No. 1 and 2.

Stirring, and endeavouring to secure what hay was down, but it is scarcely worth the trouble, from the injury it has sustained.

Monday, 9th. Captn. Barney,¹ in the Minature Ship *Federalist*, as a present from the Merchants of Baltimore to me, arrived here to Breakfast, with her and stayed all day and Night.

Remained at home all day.

Tuesday, 10th. Between 9 and 10 Oclock set out for Fredericksburgh² accompanied by Mrs. Washington, on a visit to my Mother. Made a visit to Mr. and Mrs. Thompson³ in Colchester, and reached Colo. Blackburn's to dinner, where we lodged. He was from home. The next Morning, about Sun rise we continued our journey, breakfasted at Stafford Court House, and intended to have dined at Mr.

¹ The *Federalist* had been used as a feature in the Baltimore procession in celebration of the adoption of the Constitution by Maryland. The miniature ship was perfect in rigging, sails, etc. It was fifteen feet in length and was drawn on wheels, by four horses. Captain Joshua Barney commanded it, and, after the celebration, the merchants and shipowners of Baltimore sent it to Mount Vernon as a present to Washington. Captain Barney navigated it down the Chesapeake Bay and up the Potomac to Mount Vernon, where it was moored to the wharf and served as amusement for the curious for several weeks. July 24th the *Federalist* sank in a gale. (See the diary entry for that date.)

² 'By Exps. of my tour to Fredericksburgh, £2. 10. 11 By Cash to my Mother on Acct. — 3 Guins. £4. 4.' (*Cash Account.*)

³ William Thompson.

Fitzhugh's of Chatham, but he and lady being from home we proceeded to Fredericksburgh, alighted at my Mother's and sent the Carriage and horses to my Sister Lewis's, where we dined and lodged. As we also did the next day, the first in company with Mr. Fitzhugh, Colo. Carter ¹ and Colo. Willis ² and their Ladies, and Genl. Weedon. The day following (Friday), we dined in a large Company at Mansfield (Mr. Man Page's). On Saturday we visited Genl. Spotswood's, dined there and returned in the Evening to my Sister's. On Sunday we went to Church, the Congregation being alarmed (without cause) and supposg. the Gallery at the No. End was about to fall, were thrown into the utmost confusion; and in the precipitate retreat to the doors many got hurt. Dined in a large Company at Colo. Willis's, where, taking leave of my friends, we re-crossed the River, and spent the evening at Chatham. The next Morning before five O'clock we left it, travelled to Dumfries to breakfast, and reached home to a late dinner, and found that Capt'n. Barney had left it about half an hour before for Alexandria to proceed in the Stage of Tomorrow for Baltimore.

Upon examination of the Accts. of the Work and Weather at home during my absence, found them to be as follow:

Wednesday, 11th. That the Plows from French's and Muddy hole, as also the hands of those places, had been at Work in the Mansion House New ground since Sunday, and the Plows (except one to throw a furrow to the Corn) from Dogue Run had come there yesterday.

That at the Ferry, and Dogue Run, (the ground being too wet to *plant* Potatoes) the Plows at both places on Monday, and at the first yesterday and to day, were planting Corn and throwing a furrow on each side to the plants.

¹ Colonel Charles Carter.

² Colonel Francis Willis.

(Whilst the Hoes were weeding the same.) Also prepg. for Pot[atoe]s.

That in the Neck, the ground not being quite so wet, the hands *continued* planting Potatoes on Monday and Yesterday, plowing and harrowing as usual for them.

That four Mowers went on Tuesday (yesterday) to cut the Clover in the Neck; Tom Davis one of them.

That Cornelius,¹ his Brother, and the two boys, returned to bricklaying again yesterday.

And that the following Gentlemen dined here, to wit — Colo. Fitzgerald and Messrs. Digges and Carroll, and Doctr. Hall and Brother from Maryland; and Messrs. Rumney, Hodgdsen,² Munsher, Cary³ and Williams from Alexandria.

That the Muddy hole hands this day (Wednesday) had wed the Pumpkins and Sweet Potatoes.

The Dogue Run hands weeding Corn with the Hoes after the furrows had been thrown to it.

At French's, the hands were grubbing Bushes in the ground which was receiving Pease; and the farmer sowing and covering them near Manley's Houses with two pair of Harrows.

At the Ferry, the Plows were throwing furrows to the Corn and preparing as usual for Potatoes between it. Hoes weeding the Corn.

Finished cutting the Clover in the Neck about 12 O'clock to day.

Thursday, 12th. At the Mansion Ho. New ground 6 plows were at Work, viz. 4 from D. Run, 1 from French's, and 1 from M. Hole, which would by Noon have finished breaking up the balks on the So. Side of the Road.

¹ Cornelius McDermott Roe.

² William Hodgson (?)

³ William Cary (1732-1805), of Yorktown, who was for some years established as a merchant at Alexandria.

At Muddy hole, the hands belonging there, were hoeing up balks in the above New ground where the Plows could not conveniently Run.

At the Ferry, 3 plows were weeding Corn and preparing for Potatoes — the Hoes weeding Corn also.

At French's, the Hoes were weeding Corn — two Plows doing the same, and two harrows preparing for, and putting in Pease in Field No. 5 broadcast.

At D. Run, all hands were weeding Corn, 1 plow throwing furrows to it.

Cutting Clover at French's.

Friday, 13th. Five plows, when the Weather would permit, were working in the Mansn. House New grd., as were the hands from Muddy hole.

At the Ferry, the hands had been attempting to weed Corn (wet as the grd. was)

At French's Weeding Water Mellons.

Saturday, 14th. Hoeing and plowing balks in the New grd. at Mansn. Ho. with the People from Muddy hole and 2 plows from the Ferry, 3 from French's, and 1 from Muddy hole.

At Muddy hole, threw a furrow to the Irish Potatoes (back of the one that first covered them).

At the River Plantation, all hands were planting Potatoes and weeding Corn. The Plows were throwing a furrow (on each side) to the Corn, covering Potatoes, etca. The Pumpkins were also weeded, and the Planting of Potatoes compleated at this place; qty. $269\frac{3}{4}$ Bushels. Plows prevented working here yesterday, but this day after putting in and compleating their work for the Potatoes plowed between the Pumpkins and then went into field No. 8 to prepare what remained of the unsowed part for Buck Wheat, etca.

At Dogue Run the hands were yesterday and to day weeding Corn, 3 plows previously throwing a furrow on each side to it. Little or no plowing here yesterday, owing to the Rain.

At French's weeding Pumpkins and setting Corn.

At the Ferry they were employed in doing the latter.

Finished cutting the Clover at French's. Colo. Harrison and Mr. Corbn. Washington came here to Dinner, and stayed all Night.

Sunday, 15th. Colo. Harrison and Mr. C. Washington went away after Breakfast. Captn. Barney (who went to Alexa. on Wednesday last) returned here this Morning. Dined at Mr. Lund Washington's with Colo. Humphreys, came back afterwards.

Monday, 16th. Finished plowing the New grd. at the Mansn. House about Noon to day. The ferry Plows went home, the others to Plowing at French's for Pease. The hands from Muddy hole were weeding the New ground Corn with their Hoes.

At the Ferry, French's, D. Run and River Plantations, the People were weeding of Corn with Hoes, the Plows throwing furrows to it, and at the River breaking up for B. Wheat.

Returned home this evening as has been mentioned already.

Tuesday, 17th. Visited all the Plantations, except that in the Neck. Examined the grain at each and find the fields as follows:

At Muddy hole, the Wheat in No. 2, as might be expected from the exhausted state of the Land, was *generally* thin, and in some places scarcely worth reaping. The Rye (in the same field) though indifferent in places is full as

good as could reasonably be expected from the Land, except the defect in the head. The Wheat in No. 4 where the ground had any strength, exceeded (considering the late sowing of it) my expectations. Other parts was good for nothg. and upon the whole very indifferent. The Oats in this field may be deemed above mediocrity, being (though not high or stout) very regular and even. The Wht. in No. 1 (self sown, being the shattered grains which were plowed in when the Buck Wheat was sown) was very thin in places and not sufficiently thick in any. The Barley in this field (except being very much mixed with Oats) may be deemed tolerable. That part of the grd. wch. had been sprinkled with dung were the best grain, and next to it, that which had been in Potatoes. The whole was too thin. The Clover *generally*, which had been sown with this Barley looked full as well as could be expected.

At Dogue Run, the Wheat and Rye in field No. 4 (except the defect in the head) may be considered as very good for Corn grd. Wheat. The fallowed Wheat in field No. 6 is very stout on the East side of the field but too thin even there. Another part of the field, was, in a manner, Intirely lost by the Winter's frosts, aided in the lowest places by the Continual Rains which have fallen this Spring and Summer. Upon the whole, though it was (partly) put in late, and in bad order, it exhibits an evidence of its superiority over Corn ground. The Rye in the No. part of the field with the exception before mentioned may (tho thin in places) be deemed good. The Barley at this place, contrary to my expectations, is much inferior, except in spots, to that at Muddy hole; and will turn out very indifferently: whether from the nature of the Soil, which was not able to bear the wet so well, the Land being *More* worn, which I do not conceive to be the case, or to some other cause I am not able to decide. The Oats in the same field (No. 2) are tolerably good, rather preferable to those at Muddy hole.

The Clover is fully equal to my expectations which was sown among them. The Flax at this place may be called very good, but the rankest and best of it was twisted and laid down by the repeated Rains, and Wind.

At French's, the Wheat, generally is thin, scarcely any good, and much of it very indifferent. The Rye is partly good and partly very indifferent. The Barley at this place is some good, and some very indifferent. It is, however, much better than that at Dogue Run and perhaps upon the whole preferable to that at Muddy hole. The Oats here, with scarcely any exception may be esteemed fine, and the Clover which was sown among them, and the Barley very promising in general. The English Pease and Beans which had been sown here were entirely destroyed with weeds. The Minorca Barley (but this was late sown) appeared as if it would come to little, nor did the English Barley and other small parcels which were sown at D. Run promise much. None of the Buck Wht. at this place looked well. The last sown was, *almost* entirely destroyed and in every, even the best parts of the fields, there were spots, and in some places large ones, where the B. Wht. after coming up, seemed to have been drowned, and drowning even where the Water did not lay and where the soil was good.

At the Ferry, there was *no* good Wheat. That which was sown in the fallowed ground (late) was miserable, only parts of the grd. havg. any. The Corn ground Wheat was thin, except in the Hills which had been manured with the fish guts, etca. and these appeared, tho' rank, to be fired and entangled. The Rye (which was early sown, and looked remarkably well, and stood very thick in the fall) is exceedingly bad, being thin, weak, and much broken down by the Winds and Rain. The Oats stand regular, and equal through the whole, and may be deemed middling.

REMARKS. No Rust appeared in any of the Wheat, though from the continual Rains and cloudy weather it

was much expected. This grain, however, and the Rye more so, is a good deal injured, by the speck; that is from the farina's being beat off before the grain was fully impregnated, by which whole heads, parts of heads and grains here and there have not filled, which must diminish the quantity considerably. Having suffered nothing to feed upon my grain this year, the Crop *would* have been much the better for it; but the frosts of Winter (when the Snows were blown off) destroying some parts of the fields entirely, and thinning it in others, and the constant Rains since the Middle of March drowning that which was in the low parts, though it brought forward others, which otherwise would have come to nothing, has rendered the prospect of a crop very indifferent. The grain which is not injured appears to be full, and seems as if it would be large; but it (the Wheat) is exceedingly intermixed with cheat and must be very much injured thereby.

Weeding Corn at all the Plantations with the Hoes, and throwing furrows to it with the Plows; also plowing the intervals between for Potatoes, and at French's plowing and harrowing for Pease.

Wednesday, 18th. Rid into the Neck and to all the Plantations.

Examined the grain in the Neck which appears as follows, viz. The Wheat in field, No. 7, which I expected would have been very fine, scarcely merits the epithet. Middling, the whole being too thin, being injured by the frosts of Winter and the wet of this Spring. Of the Red Wheat which was sown in this field scarce any is to be seen, and of the White (both imported from England) the ground was but thinly covered. The Corn ground Wheat in No. 3 was too thin every where — in places scarcely any. In the Orchard the Wheat in places was good, in other places indifferent, upon the whole, scarcely to be

denominated middling. No Rust appeared among it, but the speck was as much here as in other fields — but I think not quite so much cheat. The Rye at this place may, upon the whole, be deemed middling, though a good deal injured by the speck. In some places it stands thick and well, in others thin and much fallen down. The Barley, *generally*, was but indifferent; some parts of the field being *low, thin*, and having scarcely any head. Other parts again (particularly on the So. and West sides of the field) were pretty good. The Oats, the aggregate may be called good, and those growing from General Spotswood's Seed are very fine. The Clover in both Barley and Oats (where the grd. is tolerable) is very good. The flax is also good, but the best of it is a good deal entangled by the Winds, and beat down with the Rain. Finished plowing the Corn here to day and all the plows went to cross plowing of field No. 8 for B. Wheat, but were directed to plow the So. part of it for Pease to be sown in Broadcast. Set one plow with a single horse to plow between the Pease which were planted in hills and which were getting foul.

At Muddy hole the plows were throwing the So. part of field No. 3 into three feet Ridges to be hilled for Pease. The Hoes were in the New ground at the Mansn. House.

At Dogue Run, two plows were plowing for Pease, the other 3 and the Hoes were weeding Corn.

At French's, three plows and a Harrow were preparing for, and putting in Pease in field No. 5. The other Plow was throwing a furrow to the Corn before the Hoes which were weeding it.

At the Ferry the Plows and Hoes both were in the Corn.

Thursday, 19th. Rid to the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run and Muddy hole Plantations.

At the three first, Work the same as yesterday; at the last I had a piece of ground, containing 599 hills four feet

apart, spaded up the depth of the Spade, half a bushel of well rotted farm yard dung put upon each 4 feet square, and chopped in; after which the above number of Hills were made, and planted with Tobacco Plants (of the common kind) given to me by Mr. Abednego Adams.

Began to cut grass in the large Meadow at the Mill to day.

Friday, 20th. Visited the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue Run, French's and the Ferry.

At the first the Plows were in the ground intended for Pease, and the Hoes setting Corn in the New ground at the Mansn. House.

At the other three the Work the same as yesterday and before, except that about Noon, the Plows at French's finished plowing for Pease and went into the Corn at that place.

In the Morning, while we were at Breakfast, Mr. Jno. Mason, Son to Colo. Mason came in to ask my commands for France. After breakfast he returned.

Saturday, 21st. Visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck, the Plows were employed in preparing for Pease, and the Harrows putting them, one plow weeding the Potatoes in Hills, all the Hoes in the Corn.

At Muddy hole both Plows and Hoes were weeding Irish Potatoes.

At Dogue Run three plows and the Hoes were in the Corn.

At French's, the Plows and Hoes were in the Corn as usual, and the Harrow finished covering the last Pease — quantity sown 33 bushels. The ground being a little cloddy, that wch. was sown next the slash (running thro the field) was rolled.

At the Ferry both Plows, Hoes and harrow were in the Corn.

Sunday, 22d. Mr. Fendall and Mr. Willm. Craik came to dinner and went away afterwards, the latter to Alexandria and the former to Westmoreland.

Monday, 23d. Visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck all the Hoes were weeding and setting Carrots where they were missing. Set two plows with single horses into the Corn with orders to throw the furrows towards the Corn, a small triangular harrow to level them and to tare the clods and grass asunder. One plow weeding the Pease in Hills, and the others, and harrows preparing for, and putting in Pease broad-cast.

At Muddy hole, the Plows and Hoes finished, about 9 O'clock, weeding the Irish Potatoes, the first went to Fr[enc]h's and the others came to the New ground at the Mansn. Ho. and finished setting Corn. After which they came into the Vineyard Inclosure to Weed Potatoes, Carrots, etca., but the Rain drove them in and the wetness of the ground prevented further working there.

At Dogue Run, the Hoes and the Plows were weeding Corn; the other 2 Plows being at French's were ordered home this Evening.

At French's, the 3 plows from Muddy [hole], the two from Dogue run and the three belonging to the place were plowing the Corn — one, following the rest, turning the Mould to the Plant. I stopped one of the Plows and set in lieu of it two harrows to preparing the Newly plowed ground for Potatoes. The Hoe people were pulling weeds from some foul pease about Manley's Houses.

At the Ferry, both Hoes and Plows were weeding Corn, and a harrow preparing the Intervals between for Potatoes.

Tuesday, 24th. Rid to all the Plantations.

In the Neck, the ground being too wet to plow in the Corn ground, those and the harrow which were there, were obliged to quit and returned to the Pease ground — the Rest working as usual. About 10 Oclock the Hoe people finished weeding and transplanting Carrots, and all (except Ben who was left to Sow Pease, as the ground could be prepared, Lydia for the purpose of milking, and Will because he was unable to walk, and all 3 to weed the Pease in hills) came to the New ground at the Mansn. House.

At Muddy hole, the Hoes were in the New grd. and the Plows at French's.

At Dogue Run all the Plows (the two being returned from French's) were plowing the Corn, and the Hoes weeding it.

At French's, the same work as yesterday, but a plow was ordered to open furrows for Potatoes and the People to go about Planting of them to morrow.

At the Ferry, One Plow opening furrows for Potatoes, the others weeding Corn, the Hoe people planting Potatoes after an Interval, occasioned by the continual Rains and very wet ground of 16 days.

Began yesterday, to set another Brick Kiln.

Wednesday, 25th. Rid to the Ferry, French's, and Dogue Run Plantations.

At the Ferry, the Plows, Hoes and harrows were preparing for, and putting in Irish Potatoes. Began, and finished cutting the Rye at this place, not so much because it was ripe, as [or] because it was of little worth, but because the grain would get nothing by remaining and the Straw would grow worse. To what cause, unless to its being sown too early, or too thick, to ascribe the meanness of this Rye, I know not; in the Autumn it looked the most promising of any I had.

At French's, began to plant Potatoes. The Plows and harrows were preparing for it as yesterday.

At Dogue Run, the Plows and Harrows were in the Corn. Set two Harrows to preparing for the Reception of Potatoes between the Carrots, Cabbages, etca.

Set fire to another Brick Kiln to day — qty. said to be 35,000

Mrs. Stuart, who went to Maryland on Sunday, returned this Morning, accompanied by her brothr. George Calvert. Mr. Tracey came here this evening.

Thursday, 26th. Rid to the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run and Muddy hole Plantations.

At the Ferry, the Hoe People were (as yesterday) planting Potatoes. One harrow preparing for them, a Plow opening for, and covering of them; and the other two Plows throwing a furrow to the Corn on each side one.

At French's, the Plows having got through the Corn ground about 10 Oclock, those belonging to Muddy hole returned home. The work at this place being backward, I put the 6 hands which had been cradling, and all that could be spared from the Hay, to planting Potatoes and Weeding Corn, also to setting it in the missing parts.

At Dogue Run, the Hoes having finished weeding Corn, as was the case also with the Plows, the first were employed in planting Potatoes, two harrows preparing before them. Two plows, (when one of them was not opening furrows for, and covering the Potatoes) were engaged in plowing between every other Corn Row (those first planted with Potatoes) and in the following manner: viz. *to* the Corn, on *each* side, three furrows were thrown, wch. brought the Plows as near to the Potatoes which grew between as could be done with propriety. This plowing was immediately followed by the light triangular harrow which went *four* times

between the Corn, i.e. twice between it and the Potatoes, once as near the latter as the tines could run without injuring them, and next, as near the Corn as it could go without breaking it down, or touching it. This operation drew loose earth to both kinds of plants, Pulverised the ground, levelled the furrows, and gave the whole a very good and garden like appearance. At this place, for an experiment, I caused *five* of the short rows of Potatoes at the No. Wt. corner of the field to be harrowed. This was done by running *one* of the double harrows *twice* upon the Potatoes (which had been just planted). The *ground* by this means was put in fine order, but some of the Potatoes were drawn up by the Roots, many appeared to be loosened and covered with the dirt. Time must show how far they have been destroyed, or injured by this operation. The Rows, especially the fifth, seemed to be as well taken as those adjoining.

At Muddy hole, One plow (which came from French's last Night) was employed in checquering at the distance of 3 feet the three feet ridges which had been plowed for Pease, and the others were to open these furrows, to see if the time and trouble of hilling could be saved by it and the Pease equally well planted. The Hoes (as those also from the Neck) were in the New-ground, after they had wed the things in the Vineyard inclosure.

Friday, 27th. Mr. Griffith, who came in yesterday afternoon, staying to dinner, prevented my Riding to day. Colo. Wren¹ (Commr. for receiving the list of Taxable property) came in before dinner and went away with Mr. Griffith.

Saturday, 28th. The Inhabitants of Alexandria having received the News of the Ratification of the proposed Con-

¹ Colonel Thomas (?) Wren.

stitution by this State, and that of New Hampshire, and having determined on public rejoicings, part of which to be in a dinner, to which this family was invited, Colo. Humphreys, my nephew G. A. Washington, and myself went up to it and returned in the afternoon.

On my way up I visited all my Plantations, and

At the Ferry, found that the Planting of Potatoes had been compleated last night — quantity 128 bushls. That the Hoe people were gathering up, and shocking the Rye which had been cut down on Wednesday. And that three plows were throwing, as at Dogue Run and in the Neck, 6 furrows to the Corn, 3 on each side; followed by the light harrow, and one of the dble. harrows (drawn by the Mules) was going to work where the Potatoes had been planted in the No. part of the field for the purpose of levelling the covering over them and tearing up the grass where the ground was harder.

At French's, Precisely the same work was going forward as on thursday, with some additional hands from the Meadows yesterday and to day.

At Dogue Run, the Hoe people had finished planting (last evening) Irish Potatoes and were weeding and thinning the Carrots in Rows between the Corn. Qty. of Potats., 134½ Bls.

At Muddy hole, the Plows were at Work for Pease, and the Hoes were in the Mansion house New ground.

In the Neck, the Hoe People except two Men, two boys, and a Woman who were weeding Pease (in hills) were in the Mansion Ho. New ground. The Plows that were not in the Corn ground, and the Harrows, having just finished preparing for, and putting in Pease and Beans in broad cast had returned to, and were preparg. for Buck Wht. All the ground in field No. 8, South of the Road leading to the Creek landing was sown with Pease; to do which it took 21 bushels: whereof 13¾ bushels were of the large redish

crowder kind, which was on the East part next to the gate as far as a line of Stakes; the remainder $7\frac{1}{4}$ bushls. in the West part, were of the common Sort of Pease. On the other, or No. side of the Road, and next the Creek, were $2\frac{3}{4}$ bushls. of hominy beans sown in broad cast.

Monday, 30th. Rid to the Ferry, French's, and Dogue Run Plantations; and to the Brickyard.

At the Ferry, three plows and two harrows were at work as mentioned yesterday, and the other people were gathering up and shocking the Rye which had been cut down.

At French's, the Muddy hole plows came there about 8 Oclock, and the *Hoe* People from D. Run (except the two old Women), about 11; in order that my Corn might be hoed and my Potatoes get Planted; and abt. 5 Oclock in the Afternoon 12 hands from the Neck were also added to them — the whole employed in Weeding and setting Corn, and planting Potatoes. Two harrows and one plow were preparing for, and covering the latter, while 4 plows threw a single furrow on each side of the Corn to facilitate the Hoe work.

At Dogue Run, the Hoes, until I ordered them to French's were weeding and thinning Carrots; but seeing no prospect of their accomplishing it to day, and the work above mentioned being more essential, the change of course was made. Three plows were Plowing Corn as usual and the little harrow following. Moll being Sick the 2d. harrow (newly fitted up) was stopd.

At Muddy hole, the Plows having checquered the ground intended for Pease went, as before mentioned, to French's. The Hoe people, having abt. 5 Oclock finished the Mansion House New ground, recd. the Pease sent me by Colo. Spaight and those brought from York River by my Nephew, and went to planting them in the following

manner: viz. the small white Peas picked from the others, which were red; and which hardly exceeded a pint, were to be planted in the South corner of the ground. Then leaving an interval of a Row, the Red Pease of do. were to be planted, and then after another interval of a Row, those from York River were to follow.

JULY

Tuesday, first. Rid to the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run and Muddy hole Plantations.

At the first, the Plows and harrows were at work, as usual. The other people having gathered up, and put the Rye in shocks, went this Morning to assist in Weeding Corn and Planting Potatoes at French's.

At French's, the hands which were there yesterday, with the addition of those from the Ferry, were employed in Weeding Corn and planting Potatoes. The first was accomplished with the Hoes about 4 O'clock. Eight Cradlers were employed here, who cut down the Rye in No. 6 by 10 O'clock, next the Ripest of the Wheat on the Creek side, and then went about the Rye by the Road in the Meadow.

At Dogue Run, 4 plows and a harrow following, were in the Corn as usual; and,

At Muddy hole, the Hoe people, (except three sick) were planting Pease — the Plows at French's as before.

Began to lay the frame for the lower floor of the New Barn, 1st. the part for the threshing floor.

Miss Nancy Stuart came here this evening from Mr. L. Washington's.

Wednesday, 2d. Rid to the Ferry, French's and Dogue Run Plantations.

At the Ferry, the Plows were going as usual, and the Assembled force, after the business was accomplished at

French's, repaired hither and wed out the Carrots and Cabbages.

At French's, the hands which had been brought from the several quarters, finished Planting the Potatoes, 136 bushels, all of the Red Sort, and wed out the Carrots. The Plows also got over the Corn grd., and two from Muddy hole and one belonging to the plantation with a small harrow began it again on the West side, the harrow to follow the Plows as at the other places.

At Dogue Run, four Plows and a harrow were at work as usual, and about 10 O'clock got over the first Planted Potatoe Rows East of the Carrots, and went back to plow the intermediate ones subsequently planted. Began with 8 Cradles to cut Rye here to day.

At Muddy hole, finished planting the ground with Pease which had been prepared for them, which took all those sent me by Colonel Spaight of No. Carolina, and abt. 3 pecks of those brought from York River. Intervals between them as has been mentioned.

Mr. Bushrod Washington, and Mr. Richd. Blackburn came here to dinner; and Mrs. Stuart, &ca., went away.

Thursday, 3d. Rid to all the Plantations.

At the Ferry, two Cradlers began to cut Wheat in No. 1 on Stoney hill; but it being rather green, in places, it was thought best to let it lay a day before binding. The People therefore went into and wed the Corn which was in the low part of the field — 2 Plows and harrows at work as usual there.

At French's, three plows and two harrows were at Work, one of the double harrows going before the Plows (over the Newly planted Potatoes) and the small (triangular one following after them). Will (the Overseer) and 4 of his own Women — Delie being taken from Spinng, Davy from the Mill, and Dinah and Billy from the House — were em-

ployed in taking up the Wheat and Rye that was cut down on Tuesday last.

At Dogue Run, two plows and a Harrow were at work in the Corn. All the other hands, with Mima from the House, were engaged in securing the Rye that was cut yesterday. The Dutchman and Simms were cutting the cape Wheat, and other Wheat in the little field by French's. Seven Cradlers were at work cutting Rye in field No. 6 by Colo. Mason's, viz. Isaac, Cooper Tom, Ben Adam, Jack, Paschal and Abram, which they began pretty early this morning after finishing that in fd. No. 4.

At Muddy hole, 5 Cradlers, viz. Mink Will, Cowper Jack, Tom Nokes, Charles and Gabriel (newly put to it) were cutting Rye. All the other hands with Virgin from the House, were securing it.

In the Neck, two plows and a harrow were yet preparing part of field No. 8 for Buck Wheat; that part of this field which had been sown with Pease had come up very well. Two plows and the little harrow were in the Corn field, and 1 plow was in the Hilled Pease. The other two were stopped that the drivers might assist in the harvest field. Began with Seven Cradlers, viz. James, Tom Davis, Boat-swain, Sambo, Smith George, Essex and Ned to cut Rye. All the other hands were securing it after them.

Friday, 4th. Visited all the Plantations in the Morning, and all except that in the Neck in the afternoon.

At the Ferry, the same Plows as yesterday, were at Work. The other hands were following the Cradlers; binding and putting the Wheat in small shocks.

At French's, the Rye, which had been cut down being too wet to bind, the People were Hoeing, till the Afternoon, Corn; Three plows and two harrows were at work as yesterday.

At Dogue Run, the same cause preventing the binding of

Rye, the Hoe People went to thinning and Weeding of Carrots — two Plows and a harrow at Work. The Cradlers having cut down the Rye in field No. 6, went, after breakfast to cutting the ripest and thickest set Barley in No. 2, where they were ordered to remain till dinner time and then repair to Muddy hole and cut the forwardest of the Barley there till Night, and then to proceed into the Neck to do the like at that place to morrow.

At Muddy hole, being interrupted by the dripping Rains, the binders fell a good way behind the Cradlers; but when the State of the grain would permit they returned to this Work. The Cradlers (4, Jack having cut himself) would nearly finish the Rye this Evening.

In the Neck, the Cradlers continued to cut, but the grain being too damp to bind, the People for the greater part of the time were weeding the Pease in hills. Two Plows and a harrow were in the Corn, one in the hilled Pease, and two Plows and a harrow were preparing for and putting in Buck Wheat.

In the afternoon, Mr. Madison and Doctr. Stuart, with a Son of Mr. Willm. Lee, arrived from Richmond.

Saturday, 5th. Doctr. Stuart, after breakfast left this, and Colo. Humphreys, who went with Mrs. Stuart to Abingdon on Wednesday, returned here.

I remained at home all day with Mr. Madison.

Sunday, 6th. Colo. Fitzgerald and Doctr. Craik came here to Dinner, and after Dinner, Colo. Gilpin and Mr. Hartshorn on business of the Potomack Company called, all of whom went away in the Afternn.

Monday, 7th. After dinner Mr. Madison, and the Son of Mr. Lee went (in my carriage) to Alexandria, in order to proceed on to New York in the Stage tomorrow.

I remained at home all day.

Tuesday, 8th. Visited all the Plantations.

At the Ferry, Only one plow at Work (the driver of the other being sick). About Noon sent two more Cradlers to this place, one from Dogue Run and the other from Muddy hole to assist in cutting down Wheat, that the Oats here which were getting very ripe might be set about.

At French's, the grain that had been cut down, being too wet, from the Rain of yesterday evening, to gather up, but that which was standing being drier and to be bound with safety, the Cradlers and their followers were set about the standing Wheat untill that which was down should dry. The ground being wet I stopped the Plows to assist with the grain. The Barley at this place was cut down yesterday.

At Dogue Run, the same cause produced the same effect with respect to the management of the standing and lying down grain; but three Cradlers *only* were at work here (the two belonging to French's having gone home, the Cradle of another being broke, and a fourth having been sent to the Ferry). As soon as the Rye, which was on the ground, was dry enough to take up and bind (which happened by 10 O'clock,) it was set about; and the Cradlers went to cutting the remainder of the Barley. Stopped the two plows which were at work here (the driver of the third being unable to follow it) on acct. of the wetness of the grd. and to assist in the harvest.

At Muddy hole, till the cut grain was dry enough to take up, the force here was employed in cutting down and securing Wheat. About 10 O'clock the Cradlers as well as others went to raking and binding Barley.

In the Neck, the Morning was spent in cutting down and securing Wheat, after which in taking up Rye and Barley. But my forward Oats (from Spotswood's seed) in field No.

2, being lodged, and in a Ruinous way, I set the Cradlers into these about One O'clock to cut them down. Finished covering the last of the Buck Wheat here this morning. Four Plows and a harrow at work here.

Wednesday, 9th. Visited all the Plantations. Harvest very much interrupted at them by the frequent showers.

Stopped two Plows at French's, and sent the drivers of them into the harvest field at this place.

In this and other fields much time is lost in shifting from one sort of work to another in order to get the grain down and secured.

A Captn. Gregory ¹ (a french Gentlemn. who served in the American Navy last War and now in the Service of Rob. Morris, Esqr.) came here by Water from Dumfries, Dined, Supped and returned.

Thursday, 10th. Visited all the Plantations.

The Work at each very much impeded by the Rains, the Grain in places broken down by them, and the Wheat being very ripe, and the Oats getting so very fast, makes an unfavourable prospect in the Harvest fields.

Work as usual at all.

Friday, 11th. Visited the Ferry, French's, Dogue run and Muddy hole Plantations, and after going to the last returned back by the former on my way here.

The Wet occasioned by the Rain of yesterday afternoon, and the very heavy dew of this morning rendered it impracticable to do any thing to good effect with the grain, and the Plowing being very heavy, I directed the Plows to be stopped and the drivers to go to the harvest field.

¹ Captain Gregory's name does not appear in the available navy lists. There was a Captain John Gregory, who commanded a New Hampshire privateer in 1778.

At the Ferry, finished cuttg. but not binding and shocking all the Oats, and the Cradlers went into the best of the Wheat about One Oclock.

At French's, having got up all the Wheat that was down, the Rakers went into the Barley that had been cut down since Monday and the Cradlers to cutting down the English Oats.

At Dogue Run, the Cradlers and Rakers (the Barley in the Morning not being fit to Rake up) went into field No. 4, and by Dinner time would have cut all that part next next [sic] the House down and got it secured. After which the workers would return to the Barley again.

At Muddy hole, the Cradlers and Rakers in the Morning were employed in the Wheat. After which all hands returned to getting up the Barley.

Began to set another Brick kiln to day.

Saturday, 12th. Visited the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run and Muddy hole.

At the first, four Cradlers were cutting Wheat in No. 6 and binding it, but after cutting that which stood tolerably well would go to French's.

At French's, all hands (Plow drivers included) were getting up the Barley.

At Dogue Run, the Cradlers about 10 Oclock would have finished cutting down the Barley and would go into the Ripest Oats. All the other hands (except two at the Plows) were securing the Barley.

At Muddy hole, about Eleven Oclock both Barley and Rye would be in Shock that had been cut down, when the five Acres of Barley in the experimental ground would be next cut down.

To a late Breakfast Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Morris, their two Sons and Daughter ¹ and Mr. Gouv. Morris came.

¹ Robert, Jr., and Thomas and Maria Morris.

Sunday, 13th. Doctr. and Mrs. Stuart and the three girls, and Mr. George Lee of Maryland came here to Breakfast, and Mr. Lowry with a Mr. Tate and a Mr. Hamilton (the first from England and the other from the West Indies), and Mr. Williams came here to Dinner, afterwch. all of them went away except Doctr. Stuart and family.

Monday, 14th. Rid before Breakfast to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run and Muddy hole; at all they were putting up the Fences which were blown down yesterday. After which,

At the Ferry, the hands went to cutting and securing Wheat (which, tho' standing, was very damp).

At French's, the hands were united with those from the Ferry in the above work. Plows were stopped on Acct. of the heaviness of the ground.

At Dogue run, after putting up the Fencing, the hands with the Cradlers (which had been cutting Oats till then) went into field No. 6 to cut the ripest and strongest Wheat. No plowing here to day.

At Muddy hole, after rectifying the Fencing all hands went to cutting and securing Wheat in field No. 2.

Tuesday, 15th. Early in the Morning Mrs. Stuart and family left this, and about 11 Oclock Mrs. Washington and myself accompanied Mr., Mrs. Morris, &ca. as far as Alexandria on their return to Philadelphia. We all dined (in a large Company) at Mr. Willm. Hunter's; after which Mr. Morris and his family proceeded and Mrs. Washington, Colo. Humphreys and myself ret'd.

Wednesday, 16th. Visited all the Plantations. Plows stopped at all by the wet and heaviness of the ground except in the Neck. Harvest impeded by the former, but I directed the grain at all to be cut down (tho' it could not be

bound up in the Morning), as it had got quite ripe and the Wheat in many places broken.

Thursday, 17th. Rid to all the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run and Muddy hole.

At the first, finished getting up and shocking all the Oats. After which the hands (except the Ferry men, and the drivers of a Plow and harrow which were in the Corn) went to French's.

At French's, the Cradlers having cut all the grain at that place were gone (six of them) to cutting Oats at Dogue Run. The other people were re-shocking Wheat and binding and Shocking Oats. No plows at work here to day.

At Dogue Run, four Cradlers, as usual, were cutting Wheat in field No. 6 and the hands of the place securing it after them. Six Cradler's from French's were cutting Oats in No. 2.

At Muddy hole, four Cradlers were cutting Wheat in field No. 4, having finished what was in No. 1 by breakfast this Morning. Rakg. and binding at this place is up with the cutters.

Agreed with [Sullivan ¹] to sink a well at my Barn, for the doing, and walling of which, wch. is to be 3 feet in the clear, I am to give him 4/6 pr. foot; & [sic] and if any uncommon impediments should interpose (such as Rocks, gravel that cannot well be penetrated, or quick sands that cannot be kept up) I am to make a reasonable allowance. He is to do all the labouring and walling work, and is to obtain 6, or 5½ ft. water, and when water is come to, and the Kirb about to be sunk, he is to attend in Person to the execution.

In the Afternoon Mr. John Bassett, his wife, Miss Brown, his Wife's sister and Patcy Dandridge came.

¹ John Sullivan. The well brought in water at a depth of thirteen and a half feet, and was finished by the end of the month.

Friday, 18th. Visited all the Plantations.

At the Ferry, one plow and harrow were at work, and the other people in the Morning weeding Potatoes afterwards, till the Rain, assisting at French's to bind and shock Oats; the whole then, went into their respective Corn fields.

At French's, one plow and harrow were at Work, the other people with the assistance, and in the manner above were securing of Oats.

At Dogue Run, the Cradlers would, about 11 O'clock have finished cutting down the Wheat in fd. No. 6 and would proceed to cut down what was left standing in No. 4. the other Cradlers, by Night, would have finished cutting down the Oats, and were to unite. The hands of the Plantation were binding and shocking Wheat (a good way in the Rear of the Cradlers) in No. 6 except 2 plows at work.

At Muddy hole, all hands were in No. 4 Cutting and securing Wheat and had their work all up; that is, the binding and shocking even with the Cutters.

In the Neck, it was the same, and about the half of field No. 7 was secured. Five plows and a harrow was in the Corn field at work.

Saturday, 19th. Visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck, 5 Plows and a Harrow were at Work in the Corn field. All the other hands were in the Wheat in No. 7.

At Muddy hole, the two setts of Cradlers which had finished cutting down the grain last Night at Dogue Run had come to this place, and having finished Cutting the Wheat before breakfast were in the Oats, which they would have cut down about or a little after dinner and wd. join the Rakers in getting up the Wheat.

At Dogue Run, all hands, except the Cradlers and two people at the Plow were getting up the wht. that had been cut down. And after breakfast, French's and the Ferry People came here to get up the Oats.

At French's, a Plow and Harrow were at Work. The other hands (as above) after getting their Oats in the Shock had gone to Dogue Run.

At the Ferry, the hands from this place had also gone to the same place. Two plows and a harrow were at Work here.

Sunday, 20th. Mr. and Mrs. Herbert, Mr. and Miss Muir, Doctr. Brown and his wife, and Mrs. Conway came here to dinner and returned in the Afternoon.

Monday, 21st. Visited all the Plantations.

At the Ferry, two Plows and a harrow were at work in the Corn. The other hands were all at Dogue Run in the Harvest field.

At French's, three plows and a harrow were in the Corn. All the other people were at Dogue Run.

At Dogue Run, two plows and a harrow were in the Corn. The other hands, with those mentioned above from the Ferry and French's, were all in the Harvest field. About Noon, all the Wheat was got into Shocks, and by Night the Oats were also secured in like manner.

At Muddy hole, the Rakers were employed in getting up the Oats. All the Cradlers went into the Neck.

In the Neck, five plows and a harrow were in the Corn; the 1st of which would finish Plowing the alternate Rows about 4 O'clock, and would next go into the pumpkins. The Cradlers from Muddy hole would about dinner time, finish cutting the Wheat in the Orchard Inclosure, the others wd. not be able to compleat the cuttg. of Field No. 7.

Two men, sent by [] began about 10 O'clock to sink a Well at my New Barn.

Mr. and Mrs. Porter and a Mr. Ingraham, and young Doctr. Craik and his Sisters, Mrs. West and Nancy Craik came here to Dinner and returned afterwards.

Tuesday, 22d. Visited all the Plantations.

At the Ferry, two plows and a harrow were at work in the Corn grd. as *were* and *had* been the two Ferry men. The other people were in the Harvest at Muddy hole.

At French's, three plows and a Harrow were in the Corn. The rest of the hands were at Muddy hole.

At Dogue Run, two plows and a harrow were in the Corn field, and the two old Women were weeding Pumpkins. The other people were at Muddy hole.

At Muddy hole, all hands were binding and securing Oats which was accomplished about dinner after which all hands (except the Women who had young Children) went into the Neck.

In the Neck, the Oats were cut down about Noon, and the last of the Wheat about five O'clock, when the Cradlers assisted in binding and securing the grain. One harrow in the Corn, and the five Plows finished Weeding the Pumpkins after dinner.

Got Water which seemed to be good, and in tolerable plenty in about ten feet digging at my new Barn.

Mr. and Mrs. Fendall came here in the Afternoon.

Wednesday, 23d. Visited all the Plantatns.

At the Ferry, two plows and a harrow were at work. The Plows began on the So. part of the field and were employed in throwing a furrow to both the Corn and Potatoes. The two ferry men were employed in weeding and hilling the former — the harrow in levelling the former plowing, and taring up the grass. The other hands were in the Neck closing the harvest at that place.

At French's, the Plows having got through the Corn, the two belonging to Muddy hole were sent home. The other was employed in throwing a furrow to the first Pla[n]ted Potatoes. The Harrow was engaged as usual. The other

People were in the Neck, except a Woman with a young child who was weeding Pumpkins.

At Dogue Run, two plows and a Harrow were in the Corn. The two old Women and two young ones with Children, were weeding Pumpkins. The Rest were in the Neck.

At Muddy hole, the two Women with young Children, and the two Plow Women who had just returned from French's, were employed in weeding Pumpkins. The other hands were in the Neck.

In the Neck, five Plows and a harrow were in the Corn. The first beginning on the West side, were going through every other Row, throwing one furrow to both Corn and Potatoes, etca. The other hands were binding and shocking the last of the Wheat; which finishing about the hour of One, they, with those from the other plantation, went after the Rain ceased to pulling flax.

The Men who were *digging* the well compleated *their* work this afternoon and returned to Alexandria, having, as they say, obtained $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet of what *appears* to be good and constant water.

Thursday, 24th. Thermometer at 70 in the Morning, 71 at Noon, and 74 at Night. A very high No. Et. Wind all Night, which, this morning, being accompanied with Rain, became a hurricane, driving the Miniature Ship *Federalist* from her Moorings, and sinking her, blowing down Some trees in the groves and about the houses, loosning the Roots, and forcing many others to yield, and dismantling most, in a greater or lesser degree of their Bows and doing other and great mischief to the grain, grass, etca., and not a little to my Mill race. In a word it was violent and severe — more so than has happened for many years. About Noon the Wind suddenly shifted from No. Et. to So. Wt. and blew the remaining part of the day as violently

from that quarter. The tide about this time rose near or quite 4 feet higher than it was ever known to do, driving Boats, &ca. into fields where no tide had ever been heard of before, and must, it is apprehended, have done infinite damage on their Wharves at Alexandria, Norfolk, Baltimore, &ca.

At home all day.

Friday, 25th. Rid to all the Plantatns. Found the ground too wet either to plow among Corn or set it up, it having been beat flat to the ground and a great deal of it broken short of.

At the Ferry, one cradler was cutting the thin Wheat that remained, the other hands unable to do anything in their Corn ground were sent to French's.

At French's, one Cradler was cutting the Oats which had been left, the other hands went abt. Wheat which was overflowed with the tide, and then with the Ferry hands went to Dogue Run.

At Dogue Run, all hands with those of Muddy hole *all* day, and the ferry and French's part of the day were pulling flax, except some of the men who were sent to repair the breaches in the Mill Race.

At Muddy hole, the three plows were plowing in Buck Wheat, and those from Dogue Run were ordered to join them tomorrow as they could not work in their own Corn ground.

In the Neck, all the River Fence being carried away, all hands (plow people as well as the Rest) were colecting Rails to repair it, to keep the Stock out of the fields of grain, except one or two who were righting some shocks of grain, and setting up Flax which had been pulled and blown all abt.

Saturday, 26th. Remained at home.

Sunday, 27th. Whilst we were at Dinner Judge Harrison of Maryland came in and stayed all Night.

Monday, 28th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run and Muddy hole.

At the first, three plows were plowing in Buck Wheat, the other hands were repairing the fence which had been washed away by the tide.

At French's, all hands were at Dogue Run pulling flax. Ordered two of the plows belonging to this place (the 3d being disabled) to repair to morrow to the Ferry to plow in Buck Wheat.

At Dogue Run, four plows were at Work at Muddy hole, and some hands on the Mill Race. All the Rest with those from French's were pulling flax, the ground at every place being too wet to plow or Hoe in the Corn fields. The flax at this place as well as in the Neck, has been greatly injured by the continual Rains which has beat a great deal of it to the ground which was rolled, and by the immense growth of Weeds from which it was impracticable to sepeare it unless each plant, in a manner was individually pulled.

At Muddy hole, the three plows belonging to the Plantation and the four from Dogue Run, were plowing in Buck Wheat. The other hds. were weeding a yard for the reception of grain, and imprudently opening the shocks till they were ordered to do them up again.

The continual Rains, the heat and closeness of the Weather conspiring, was sprouting all the outside sheaves of the shocks of every kind of grain that had been examined except Rye, and without the speedy interposition of dry weather, sun, and Wind, must soon Ruin it.

Tuesday, 29th. Visited all the Plantations.

At the Ferry, five plows were turning in Buck Wheat,

two of them from French's. The other hands were weeding their Wheat yard.

At French's, except the two Plows which were at the Ferry, all were pulling flax at Dogue Run.

At Dogue Run, four Plows were at work at Muddy hole. All the rest were pulling flax.

At Muddy hole, seven plows were turning in Buck Wheat, the other People were weeding a yard for treading Wheat.

In the Neck, eight Plows were turning in Buck Wheat. The rest of the hands, except some who were preparing the yard for the reception of grain and getting Corn Stalks to bottom the Stacks with, were weeding Pease.

Sowed Turnips yesterday in a square below the Stables — Norfolk Globe. And began yesterday to cut Hay in the Neck. Finished this evening, except such parts of the Meadows as were under Water.

A Mr. Vender Kemp,¹ a Dutch Gentn., who had suffered by the troubles in Holland, and who was introduced to me by the Marquis de la Fayette came here to Dinner.

Wednesday, 30th. A Red light (supposed to be the Aurora Borealis) in the North.

Rid to the Ferry, French's and Muddy hole Plantations. At the Ferry five Plows were at wk. the other hands were setting up Corn.

At French's, binding and shocking the Oats which were on the Ground and the little Wheat in No. 2, the hands from D. Run assisting.

At Muddy hole, seven plows were at Work; which when the Buck Wheat was Rank and stood thick on the ground turned it in very indifferently, nor no contrivance I could

¹ Francis Adrian Vander Kemp, a Mennonite minister from Leyden. He was not pleased by Washington's austerity. (See Baker's *Washington after the Revolution*, p. 107.)

make seemed to have any good effect. The other hands after pulling the flax, weeded some of the foulest of the Pease in order to come into the New grd. tomorrow.

The Man (Sullivan) who was to wall up my well, came to day to do it. Mr. Vender Kemp returned.

Thursday, 31st. Rid to all the Plantations.

At the Ferry, five Plows were at Work as yesterday. The other hands were hilling or hoeing Corn, though the ground was very heavy and wet.

At French's, the People with those from Dogue Run were pulling flax and cutting a few latter Oats.

At Muddy hole, seven Plows (including those from D Run) were at Work. The other hands (except 5 in the Corn grd. at the Mansn. Ho.) were employed in gettg. in and stacking Barley.

On the Neck, 9 Plows were turning in B. Wheat. The other hands were weeding Pease, and getting in and stackg. Oats.

Mrs. Dulany and her daughter, and Doctr. Craik and Mr. B. Grymes dined here, all of whom went away afterwards.

AUGUST

Friday, 1st. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run, and Muddy hole.

At the Ferry, the same plows as yesterday were at work in the B. Wheat. The other hands, except the Carter, who was drawing rails to the Wheat yard, were Hoeing Corn.

At French's, after getting up the Oats, etca., the People began to clean their Wheat yard.

At Dogue run, the same work was going forward together with the getting in Wheat from field No. 4. Four plows were at Muddy Ho.

At Muddy hole, the cart, with proper assistance, was drawing in Wheat. The other hands were examining the shocks of Oats, etca.

A Mr. Oconnor,¹ D. Surveyor in the Western Country, came here with some executed Land Warrants. Dined and proceeded on to Richmond afterwards.

Saturday, 2d. Visited all the Plantations. At the Ferry, six plows were turning in B. Wheat, three of them from French's. Tried the Patent Plow sent me by Major Snowden,² wch. run easy and did good work. Gathered up the thin Wheat wch. had been cut down some days ago.

At French's, the hands were still preparing the Wheat yard, and the Cart drawing Rails to enclose it.

At Dogue Run, five plows were at work at Muddy hole. The other hands and the Cart were getting in and stacking Wheat from field No. 4.

At Muddy hole, eight Plows were turning in B. Wheat. The other hands were getting in and stacking Wheat from field No. 2 and drying Barley shocks on the same field.

In the Neck, eight Plows were turning in B. Wheat. One harrow preparing for Turnips between Corn Rows (left for the purpose 13 in number, and which were sown with the Green Turps.) in No. 6. The rest of the hands and two carts, were getting in and stacking both Wheat and Bar[le]y.

Mr. John Bassett and Wife and Child, and Miss Brown, went away very early this morning.

Sunday, 3d. At home all day.

Monday, 4th. Went up to Alexandria to a meeting of the Potomack Company; the business of which was finished.

¹ John O'Connor.

² John Snowden.

about sundown, but matters which came more properly before the Directors obliged me to stay in Town all Night. Dined at Wise's and lodged at Colo. Fitzgerald's.

Tuesday, 5th. The business before the Board of Directors detaining till near two oclock, I dined at Colo. Fitzgerald's and returned home in the afternn.

Called by the Plantation at Muddy hole. Found the Cart and some hands getting in the grain to the Barn and yard, and others chopping down Weeds in the Corn at the Mansion house.

Wednesday, 6th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run and Muddy hole.

At the first, the Rows between the Corn, which had been planted with Cabbages and had perished, had been plowed and harrowed, and were sowing with the Green (Norfolk) Turnip. One Plow was at work before the Hoes in the Corn ground, and the other two, with the three belonging to French's, had gone to that Place about 10 Oclock to plow in the Buck Wheat, weeds, etca., in field No. 5 for Wheat, where 4 plows from Dogue Run and 3 from Muddy hole had gone for the same purpose yesterday. The Hoes except Cupid were tilling and weeding Corn.

At French's, all hands, with the Ferry Cart and the Waggon from the Mansn. Ho., were getting in the Wheat and Rye from field No. 6.

At Dogue Run, one plow was preparing the intervals which was designed for Turnips between the corn for sowing. Six hands were weeding and hilling Corn, and the others with the Cart were getting in and stacking the Wheat and Rye of No. 4.

At Muddy hole, six hands were chopping down the weeds in the Corn at M. Ho. The others were getting in and stacking the Barley.

Thursday, 7th. Visited all the Plantations. In the Neck, nine hands were weeding and hilling Corn, one plow going before them to throw a furrow on each side. The rest with the waggon and two Carts were getting (Spotswood's) Oats, — the Barley and wht. in the Orchard having been brot in and stacked. Six plows were turning in Buck Wheat.

At all the other Plantations the work was precisely the same as yesterday.

Friday, 8th. Visited the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, D. Run and Muddy hole.

At French's, they would have finished, about two Oclock, getting in and stacking all the grain in No. 6; and would proceed to fencing the yard, and securing the Inclosure. After which, if there was time for it, they would begin to get in and stack the Barley and Oats in No. 2. Plows in No. 5.

At the Ferry, one Plow, and the Hoe people were weeding and Hilling of Corn.

At Dogue Run, the Cart and necessary attendance for that, and stacking, were employed about the Rye (six besides the Overseer). The rest seven, with two plows were in the Corn.

At Muddy hole, having finished getting in and stacking the Barley, all hands about 1 Oclock came to the Corn grd. at the Mansn. Ho., but the Cart was ordered to assist in getting in the Rye at D. Run.

Brought the Jenny with the Jack Colt from Muddy hole, and turned them, with the other Maltese Jenny, the two yearling Mule Colts, and the 4 sorrel Colts, into the Clover Paddock. The other mares and Colts which were in No. 1 at Muddy hole were carried to No. 1 at Dogue Run for the benefit of the pasture.

Mr. Geo. Digges and a Dr. Kelty¹ came to dinr. and ret'd.

¹ Dr. William Kelty; he had been Surgeon of the Fourth Maryland Regiment.

Saturday, 9th. Visited all the Plantations. At the Ferry, one Plow and the Hoes were in the Corn.

At French's, the Plows would have finished turning in the Buck Wheat and Weeds, in the East part of No. 5. The other hands were repairing the fences around fields 1 and 6.

At Dogue Run, the rain which fell in the Night prevented the removal of grain till Noon, when the Cart, etca., continued getting in Rye. The other hands were in the Corn as yesterday.

At Muddy hole all hands were threshing Rye.

In the Neck, the Carts were stopped by the wet. The Plows 8 of them were turning in B: Wht., and the other People were weeding Pease which were most abominably foul.

Mrs. Jenifer who came here yesterday to dinner returned home this afternoon.

Colo. Humphreys went to Abingdon and George Town.

Monday, 11th. Visited all the Plantatns.

At the Ferry, 3 plows were at wk. in the Corn, and all the Hoes (except Cupid, who was stacking Barley at French's) were weeding and Hilling of Corn.

At French's, the Waggon and two Carts began to draw in Barley for Stacking. The hands engaged in loading, unloading, and stacking it. 3 plows were at work in the Corn, turning two furrows to that, and to the Potatoes. Ordered the Flax that was set together (but not properly shocked) to be opened, thoroughly dried and put into a Stack.

At Dogue Run, five plows were at work, throwing (as at French's) two furrows to the Corn and two to the Potatoes. The other hands (except those about the Stack) were hill-ing Corn, which by this time was so grassy as in a manner to be lost, and the wk. not practicable to do, as it shd. be

with either plows or Hoes. Overlooked the Stock at this place. Drew two Steers and 3 old Cows out of the Cattle to be sent to a fresh Pasture at French's for feeding. Withdrew the Lambs, 49 in number, from the other sheep, for the purpose of weening them and placed them in the upper meadow. Also sorted the Sheep and set apart 3 old ewes and 25 old weathers for my own killing, and for Market; the rest, viz. [] ewes and [] weathers for breeding and for Store sheep. Ordered the Horse Chevalier and a poor mare to be turned into No. 1 to get fat for selling.

At Muddy hole, the hands were all at the Mn. Ho. Corn ground. Separated 3 lambs and 5 weathers from the rest of the Sheep, leaving [] yearling sheep for breeding. Drew a work Steer from the Cattle, to be sent to the feeding Pasture at French's; also two young Mares to be broke in the Room of Jocky and Diamond (two old Wk. Horses) which are to be sent to the Pasture at French's to be fattened. Directed the Mare called Simpson's to the Ferry, to be broke in lieu of the bay Mare wch. came last year from the Neck and wch. is allotted for a breeder (not to work), — and a brown Mare to the Past[ur]e at F[renc]h's.

In the Neck, eight Plows were turning in Buck Wheat, one going over the Corn turning two furrows to it. The other hands, except those attending the Carts and stacking, were brushing over the Pease which in a very rough and imperfect manner would be accomplished to day. Overlooked the Stock here, and separated 13 (besides 2 Work Steers which will follow as soon as they can be spared) to go to the feeding Pasture at French's, viz. 5 steers and 9 cows. Separated the Lambs 45 in number from the Ewes, and put them in Field No. 2. Drew 12 old Weathers and 38 old ewes for killing and marked and put them in Field No. 7. The residue, viz. 29 weathers and 79 ewes, were turned in the Common Pasture. Ordered a Mare called Davy's and her Colt to French's to recruit.

In the Evening Colo. Humphreys returned, and accompanied by Mr. Geo: Calvert.

Tuesday, 12th. The whole family, accompanied by Colo. Humphreys and Mr. Calvert, crossed the River, dined with Mr. Geo: Digges, and returned in the Evening.

Wednesday, 13th. Visited the Ferry, French's, Dogue run and Muddy hole Plantations.

At the first; three Plows and all the hands were at work in the Corn ground except Cupid, who was stacking at French's. Examined the Stock at this place; and sent an old Steer and Cow to the fattening Pasture at French's. Of the Sheep there was but one old weather which was brought to the Ho.; and there being but one of what might be called old ewes that was in danger of not standing the Winter, it was left to take its chance with the rest, wch. are as follow:

- 1 old ewe.
- 14. Young and middle aged, Do.
- 22. Young Weathers, and
- 23. Lambs, Ewes and Weathers.

In all 60 Sheep. Cattle, besides the two which were sent to French's, are as follow:

- 2 Bulls
- 6 Work Oxen
- 26 grown Cattle
- 9 Yearlings
- 8 Calves
- 4 Ditto from Mn. House
- 2 Cows at Ditto.

In all, 57. The Horses were agreeable to the former acct. and reports, viz. 8 Workers, besides the one lately sent there from Muddy hole for that purpose and the two Mules. A bay Mare (young) with a small sorrel horse Colt.

At French's, the Waggon and two Carts and all hands, except three people with the Plows, in the Corn field, were getting in and stacking the Oats. Examined the Stock here, and put two old Cows, and five old Weathers into the fattening field for killing or Market. Remainder of the Sheep were 32 Ewes and 16 Lambs. The horses were found agreeable to the list taken from the first of Jany., 1787, and the reports since, as also the cattle.

At Dogue Run, all the Ploughs and Hoes were in the Corn.

At Muddy hole, the Plows were crossing the Pease. All the other hands were chopping down Wds. in the Corn at the Mansn. House.

Thursday, 14th. Went into the Neck, and to Muddy hole.

At the first, 8 Plows were turning in Buck Wheat and one in the Corn, two Carts and Ten hands were getting in and stacking Oats; all the rest were Weeding and hilling of Corn.

At Muddy hole, the three plows were employed as yesterday, and all the other hands were threshing Wheat for seed.

Friday, 15th. Visited the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, and Dogue Run.

At the first, the Plows and Hoes were employed as they were yesterday and the day before, that is the Plows were breaking up the grd. between the Corn and Potatoes, and the Hoes were weeding and drawing dirt to the latter, havg. hill'd the Corn.

At French's, the wet morning prevented working among the grain; all hands therefore went to weeding a yard for the purpose of heading out the Barley and Oats in field No. 2.

At Dogue Run, the 5 plows would have finished throw-

ing a furrow to the Corn and Potatoes by Noon, and would begin on the West side of the field to plow up the balks between these two furrows. At Night the Hoes compleated the hilling of the Corn.

At Muddy hole, the Hoe people were all in the Corn at the Mansion House. The plows finished crossing the Pease, and breaking up the ground which had been in flax in No. 3.

Saturday, 16th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue run and Muddy hole.

At the Ferry, the same work, precisely, was going on as yesterday.

At French's, no Carting or stacking of grain. 3 plows were in the Corn, the other hands weeding a yard to tread out the English Oats No. of the Branch.

At Dogue Run, 3 Plows were at work. One was stopped on acct. of sickness, and another to Harrow. The other hands were weeding and drawing dirt to the Potatoes.

At Muddy hole all hands were threshing Wheat.

Monday, 18th. Remained at home.

Tuesday, 19th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run, and Muddy hole.

At the first, three plows were in the Corn and all the other hands were drawing dirt to the Potatoes.

At French's, the Ploughs were stopped, till I set them to work abt. 11 O'clock. All hands till that time and the rest afterwards were hoeing the Corn.

At Dogue run, four plows (one Plowman being still sick) and all the rest of the hands, except one woman sick, were among the Corn. The latter weeding, and drawing dirt to the Potatoes. Ordered all, except the Plow people and Carter, the latter with his Cart to Muddy hole, to go to French's tomorrow to Hoe Corn.

At Muddy hole, three ploughs were crossing the East cut by the gate of Field No. 3 for Wheat. This ground did not work well. The Buck Wheat had not been buried long enough to have got sufficiently rotted; consequently the Ploughs choaked. The Waggon from the House, and the Cart were taking out dung to spread on the poor knowls in this field. Some hands were spreading it, and the others weeding, and drawing dirt to the Irish Potatoes and Jerusalem Artichokes adjoining.

Wednesday, 20th. Went up to Alexandria with Mrs. Washington. Dined at Mr. Fendall's and returned in the evening.

Thursday, 21st. Visited all the Plantations. At the Ferry, began with 3 plows and a harrow, to sow and cover Wheat in field No. 7. — the ploughs crossing the lately plowed in Buck Wheat, and the harrow covering the grain at twice, that is, going as the plows do the first time, next, crossing. Every other land was also sowed with Buck Wheat, for the experiment of its falling with the frost and by laying on the Wht. during the Winter keeping it warm and from being hove out of the grd. The Hoe people were weeding and drawing dirt to the Potatoes.

At French's, the ploughs finished throwing on each side of the corn a furrow and begun on the west side of the field to break up the balks between. The other hands were employed, some in getting in and stacking the grain, and the rest with those from Dogue run and Muddy hole in hilling and weeding of Corn.

At Dogue Run, three plows and a harrow were breaking up, and levelling the balks between the corn and Potatoes. The Overseer and five hands were getting in and Stacking the Rye that grew in field No. 4. The rest of the hands that were well were at work at French's.

At Muddy hole, two plows and a harrow were putting in Wheat in the East cut of field No. 3. The Overseer and five hands were getting in and stacking the Wheat that grew (voluntarily) in No. 1. The rest of the hands, except Nancy, who was sick, were at work at French's.

In the Neck, six plows were turning in B. Wheat, two and a harrow were breaking up and levelling the balks between the Corn and Potatoes. Two Carts with the necessary attendance were getting in and stacking the Remainder of Spotswood's Oats, which would be finished this day (9 stacks) and proceed to bringing in Wheat from No. 7. The rest of the hands (one pressing Cyder) were weeding Pease.

Friday, 22d. Rid to the Ferry, French's, Dogue run and Muddy hole plantations.

At the first, and two last the work was precisely the same as yesterday.

At French's, the getting in, stacking and securing the last of the grain would be compleated abt. noon. About which time or a little after the Hoes would nearly have got over the Corn and would begin to weed and draw dirt to the Potatoes.

Mr. Richard B. Lee and his brother Theodk. Lee came here to dinner and stayed all Night.

Saturday, 23d. Visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck, eight Plows and a harrow were at work in the Corn. The Waggon and two Carts were drawg. in Wheat from field No. 7, and the rest of the hands were about finishing weeding the Pease and *pulling* the large weeds from among the Pompions; after which would gather up the apples under the Trees.

At Muddy hole, the Plows and harrow were plowing for and putting in Wheat. The other hands were getting in

and stacking Oats, and working at French's as yesterday.

At Dogue Run, the Plows and harrow were in the Corn. The other hands were at French's except such as were employed in getting in and stacking the Barley.

At French's, the Plows as yesterday were breaking up the balks. All the rest were weeding and drawing dirt to the Potatoes.

At the Ferry, the Plows and harrow were crossing for, and putting in Wheat. One land of which, designated by a stake drove into it, was trench plowed; or dble. plowed in the same furrow to break the ground 8 or 10 Inches deep to try the effect. This *ought* to have been done in the *fall*.

A Mr. George Thompson, from the Academy in Alexandria, with a letter to me from his father Doctr. Thompson¹ respecting his son-in-law Doctr. Spence;² and Geo: Step. Washington came here to dinner and stayed all Night.

Sunday, 24th. Mr. and Mrs. Roger West and Miss Craik, and Mr. Chas. Lee and his Sister and Miss Ballendine came here to dinner, all of whom stayed all night except Mr. and Mrs. West.

Monday, 25th. Rid to the Ferry, French's, D: Run and Muddy hole Plantations. At

The Ferry, three plows and the dble. Harrows were putting in Wheat and two Carts and the other hands getting in and stacking of Oats.

At French's, all hands, including those from D. Run and Muddy hole were weeding and earthing the Potatoes. 3 Plows were at work, but not able to keep before the Hoes.

At Dogue Run, four Plows and a harrow were in the

¹ Dr. Thomas Thompson, of Westmoreland County.

² Dr. William Spence.

Corn. The Cart and some hands were getting in and stacking Barley. The Rest were at French's.

At Muddy hole, two Plows and a harrow were preparing for and putting in Wheat. Six hands getting in oats and stacking them, and the rest were at French's.

At the Mansion House, began with 8 Scythes to cut the Lawn on the west front of the House which they only accomplished by Night.

Mr. Lee and the young Ladies, and my Nephews Geo, and Lawe. Washington returned to Alexandria after Breakfast.

Tuesday, 26th. Rid to all the Plantations. In the Neck, 8 Plows and a harrow were in the Corn, and all the hands, except those who were with the Carts and Waggon getting in Wheat and stacking of it, were weeding and earthing Potatoes which work they began yesterday.

At Muddy hole, the same work going on as yesterday.

At Dogue Run, the Plows havg. finished the Balks in the Cornfield went after Dinner yesterday to French's and were there today, where the same hands from Muddy hole and this place were at work.

At French's, the same work with the addition of 4 Plows from D: Run were going on.

At the Ferry, the Oats were got in just before the Rain, and the Wheat on Stoney hill was next set about. The Ploughs, harrows, and other hands were employed as usual.

At the Mansion House, the South East of the House was nearly cut down today.

Wednesday, 27th. Visited the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run and Muddy hole.

At the first the same work precisely, as yesterday.

At French's, the same, till the Plows finished breaking up the balks in the Corn, when trying and finding the Buck

Wheat which had been plowed in at this place not sufficiently rolled to cross, they went to the Ferry to prepare for and put in Wheat at that Plantation.

At Dogue run, the same work going forward as yesterday. And at Muddy hole the same.

Mrs. Stuart, Miss Nancy Stuart, a Brother of the Doctor's and their Children came to dinner, as did Commodore Brooke. In the evening Doctr. Stuart came.

Thursday, 28th. Visited the Plantations at the Ferry, French's Dogue Run and Muddy hole, accompanied by Doctr. Stuart.

At the first, ten plows and a Harrow were at work, preparing for and putting in Wheat. The other hands with the Waggon and two Carts were getting in and stacking the grain from the fields.

At French's, the Plows having finished the Corn went as has been observed to the Ferry yesterday, and the Hoes having wed the Potatoes and earthed them, all went this morning to D. Run.

At Dogue Run, the Hoes from French's and Muddy hole — Six from each — having joined those of the Place were at Work in weeding and earthing the Potatoes. The Plows were at the Ferry, and a Cart and six hands were getting in and stacking the Oats.

At Muddy hole, two Plows and a harrow were preparing for Wheat, and the Cart and six hands were getting in, and stacking what was in the field's. The other hands were at Dogue Run.

Friday, 29th. Visited all the Plantations. In the Neck, the Waggon and 1 Cart were getting in Wheat, the other was at Mill. The other hands, except those at Plow and employed in getting in and stacking the Wheat, were threshing out Oats, and pressing Cyder.

At Muddy hole, the Plows wch. had just finished preparing for, and putting in Wheat at the Ferry (with the Ferry Plows) set into work after dinner. All the other hands were employed as yesterday.

At Dogue Run, the same hands were at the same work as yesterday.

At French's, the Hoe and Plow people were, as before mentioned, at the other places.

At the Ferry, the Plows went after dinner to Muddy hole. The rest were employed in getting with the carts and waggon the Grain.

Doctr. Stuart and his Brother Richard left this before Breakfast for their Father's.

Saturday, 30th. Rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue run, French's and the Ferry.

The work at all, was precisely the same as yesterday.

Finished to day, getting in and stacking all the grain at the Ferry.

Cleaned up a stack of Oats wch. had been threshed out in the Neck, which yielded 81 Bushls. The stack was small, but of the shortest Oats. The Wheat from the English seed was also threshed and cleaned. Of the red there was but 3 pecks, of the other (White or Harrison Wheat) $13\frac{1}{4}$ — vast loss in both. The goodness of the sort, of both, much questioned.

The quantity of Ground sowed at the Ferry in Wheat may be abt. 30 acres, in which [] Bushels was bestowed, viz 18 bushls. from Muddy hole, 18 bushls. from Captn. Speak, and 3 bushls. of the White or Harrison Wheat from England. N.B. This last was sown on the North part of the field next the Woods and Stoney field.

Sunday, 31st. Mr. Murray ¹ and his Wife; Colo. Fitz-

¹ James Murray.

gerald; a Mr. Hancock and son, the former a Merchant of London; a Mr. Atkinson (all three introduced by Colo. Fitzgerald), and Capt. Gregory came here to dinner and returned to Alexandria afterwards. Mr. Tracy who came here last night remained.

SEPTEMBER

Monday, 1st. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run and Muddy hole.

At the First, Weeding Turnips. The Plows at Muddy hole.

At French's, all hands except the Plow People, were at Dogue run.

At Dogue run, the same Work as Saturday was going on. The Oats would be all in and stacked to day. And the Potatoes nearly wed out.

At Muddy hole, the Plows of the Ferry, French's, and Dogue run were at work, preparing for the sowing of Wheat. Began about Noon to sow the red Wheat raised from English seed, in drills; of this there was 3 pecks, very indifferent; which occupied 3 lands 6 feet and better, broad, next the Pease, South side the field. Next to these, in like manner sowed the White, or Harrison Wheat, [] bushels up to the next stake (the first stake being drove between the red and this). Finding that the barrel disposed of too much seed after 7 rows were sowed with the Harrison Wheat I altered it, wch. alteration continued to the end of the drills thinner.

Doctr. Stuart returned here last night from his Father's, and Mr. Tracy who came here on Saturday went away this Morning.

Tuesday, 2d. Rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue run, French's and the Ferry.

At the first, the Plows would about 12 Oclock, have crossed the Buck Wheat and would then go into the Pease. The Barrel Plow was sowing Wheat and 2 Harrows covering after it, going twice (once each) in the same row the same way. The other work the same as yesterday.

At Dogue Run, the Plows were at Muddy hole. The Potatoes wd. be wed out by Noon, and the hands from French's and Muddy hole wd. return home.

At French's, the Plows were at Muddy hole, and the other People at Morris's.

At the Ferry, the Plows were at Muddy hole, the other hands preparing ground to re-sow Turnips between Corn Rows, when the first sowing were chiefly cut off by the fly.

Captn. Gregory dined here and went away afterwards.

Wednesday, 3d. Visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck, 6 Plows were crossing the B. Wheat field for sowing Wheat; one harrow in the Corn. The Waggon and Ox Carts were getting in Wheat; the other hands (not with the Carts and at the Stacks) were Weeding and Earthing the Potatoes.

At Muddy hole, the Pease having had a furrow thrown to them, all the Plows, except those belonging to the Plantation, went yesternight to French's. The other hands were getting in Wheat, and threshing out Rye.

At Dogue Run, the Oats and Barley being all in, and the other People having got through the Potatoes, all hands were employed in fencing, around the above stacks, repairing the Meadow and other fences of field No. 2, and preparing it for the reception of small stock. Into wch. 3 old Ewes and 4 Calves from the Mansion House were put. The Plows were at work at French's.

At French's, the Plows belonging to the Ferry, Dogue run and the Plantation, were crossing the East part of field No. 5 (where Buck Wheat had been plowed in) in order to

sow Wheat therein. The hands of the place were getting the seed from the Flax in order to rot it. The cross plowing of the above ground was done miserably bad, owing to the B: Wheat and Weeds not being rotted and by choaking the Plows every 3 or 4 steps preventing them from penetrating the earth.

At the Ferry, the Plows were employed as above, the Ferry men cleaning the shattered Wheat and other grain in the Yard, and the other hands were brushing over some of the foulest of their Corn.

From the Mansion house, three old Ewes, and 4 Calves were sent to field No. 2 at Dogue run.

Thursday, 4th. Rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue Run, French's and the Ferry.

At the first, the Harrison Wheat, 10 Bushels having been sown in drills and covered in, three harrows were putting in Wheat adjoining thereto, the Seed of which was brot. from the Neck.

At the other 3 plantations the work was precisely the same as yesterday.

Mrs. Craik and Miss Craik came here to dinner.

Friday, 5th. Rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue Run, French's and the Ferry.

At Muddy hole, Only one harrow remained to cover the Wheat, the other two went to French's, getting in Wheat and stacking it. The other hands were spreading the trash that was raked together by the Harrows to prevent by laying in heaps the destruction of the Wheat.

At Dogue Run, Getting in and stacking the Wheat from field No. 6. The other hands were repairing the fencing between the Corn field and meadow by the Ho. inclosing the Hay Stacks, and Wheat yard. Turned 3 old Ewes and 25 Weathers into field No. 2 at this place for feeding, and

brought 28 head of Cattle from French (which had been put into the clover of field No. 1) into the large Meadow at the Mill, also 2 Calves. The blind Cow was left at French's, one being killed and another died makes the number (31) that was sent to the above pasture.

At French's, the Plows from Dogue Run, Ferry, and Muddy hole were preparing for sowing Wheat. Three harrows, one pair being added from the ferry were covering the Seed which the Farmer began to sow to day. The Harrow was run over, after the Plows, and before Sowing, to level the ground and rake the grass and Weeds into heaps; but the ground was miserably rough notwithstanding they were to pass twice after sowing. The People at this place were getting the seed from the flax in order to spread it.

At the Ferry, the Hoe people were brushing over the most grassy Potatoes in the Corn ground. Three Plows at French's.

Mrs. Craik and her daughter went away after dinner to Colo. McCarty's.

Saturday, 6th. Visited all the Plantations. In the Neck, One harrow was covering the Wheat that had been sown (viz. 12½ Bushels). All the other hands were getting in Wheat, and treading out a bed. Waggon and 2 Carts employed.

At Muddy hole, One harrow was employed in covering the Wheat, the sowing of which was now finished at this place (except a little of the Cape Wheat wch. is to be sown where the Irish Potatoes and Jerusalem Artichokes are now growing), and which is as follow, in field No. 3: viz. In the small cut East of the Branch 10 Bls. Next the Pease three pecks of red imported Wheat in drills — 3 Rows — this grain was much shrivelled and bad. Next to these, in drills also was 10 Bushels of the imported but not

full and plump. Then 14 Bushls. of the common Wheat — Seed from the Neck. On the North side of the road leading from the Gate to the Barn 21 bushls. of common Wheat also from the Neck was sown; Making together, drilled and broad, 55 Bushels. The other hands were stripping the Seed from the Flax, getting in and stacking Wheat.

At Dogue Run, the Waggon from the Mansn. House aided the Cart in getting in Wheat, the Plows were at French's, and the other hands were stacking and making fences round the Wheat Yard.

At French's, All the Plows were at work as yesterday; and would finish crossing all the B. Wht. grd. this afternoon. The part south of the road from the Bars was sown, harrowed, and compleated, but in a rough manner; part on the other or North side of this Road was also sown, and the harrows covering it. The Pease ground at the No. end of this field which had been plowed in were cross plowed, part harrowed (across the last plowing) and a bushel of the plain white Wheat, sent me by Beale Bordley, Esqr. sown thereon in drills — [] rows. The hands of this Plantation were beating the seed from the flax in order to spd. it.

At the Ferry, the Plows were at French's as yesterday, and the other hands brushing over the Potatoes in the Corn.

Sunday, 7th. Colo. Gilpin dined here, and went away in the afternoon for Colchester.

Monday, 8th. Brought 12 Ploughs, with all the hands that could be spared from the Wheat yard in the Neck, viz. all from Muddy hole, all from D. Run except the 2 old Women and two that were sick, and all from French's and the Ferry that were not sick; making in the whole [], in order, while the ground was in its present moist state, to get in Corn ground in front of the Mansion house, expedi-

tiously sown with Wheat; began by the White gates, on the South Side of the Road.

The Waggon, and Carts from D. Run, Ferry and French's, were carting Brick Wood.

Spread all the Flax, with the Haymakers, the Seed of which had been taken off at French's.

At French's, Harrowing in Wht. on the No. Cut, where the Harrows were on Saturday; the ground since the Rain harrowing better than it did before. Also sowing, with the Barrel Plow, one bushel of the White bearded Wheat sent me by Beale Boardly,¹ Esqr. adjoining to the plain Wht. sowed on Saturday, and adjoining this again (likewise in drills) 9 gallons of the Cape Wheat from that Gentleman also. Note. The Plain white which was sown on Saturday (in drills) was either not covered, or covered so thinly as to have *much* of it left quite bare by the late rains. This, in a degree, was the case of that sown broad in the same field, South side of the Et. cut.

Tuesday, 9th. Work going on as yesterday in the Corn ground at the Mansion house. About One O'clock the Wheat on the South side of the road was sown and Hoed and plowed in, and the other side begun. Began also to sow the South side with Timothy Seed on the Wheat. Ordered a gallon of clean seed to be allowed to the Acre.

Finished sowing Wheat in the cut at French's where the harrows were at work yesterday. In both sides of this cut (East of the Branch) 32 Bushels of Wheat were sown. That on the So. side of the road from the Bars by the Cabbins, to the Gate was harrowed once before sowing and twice afterwards; but that on the No. side of the said road, was not, at least the No. East end of it, harrowed till after sowing. Finished sowing, in drills, the Wheat by the Gate and Manley's Ho.; and not having enough of the Cape

¹ Of Wye, Maryland.

Wheat from Mr. Bordley to do this, I sent half a bushel of my own to compleat it, which with three pecks more was all the sound and clean seed that was raised of this sort of Wheat last year, and added to other circumstances which have been heretofore remarked of it, proves that it is of too precarious a kind to be depended on for a crop. For in the first place it will not stand frost, and in the next place it does not fill kindly and is subject to rust.

The Waggon and Carts that were drawing Brick Wood yesterday, were at it again to day. The Brick layers compleated the 12th course of Bricks of the 14 Inch Wall from the second floor in the New Barn.

Wednesday, 10th. Visited the Plantations in the Neck, Muddy hole, and French's Plantations.

At the first, the Waggon and two Carts were drawing in Wheat and People as usual employed and stacking of it, Five plows and one harrow preparing for, and putting in Wheat, one triangular harrow running betwn. the Corn Rows, 3 Women picking up Apples and threshing Rye. The others at the Corn Ground at the Mansion House.

At Muddy hole, *All* hands were in the Corn field at the Mansion House. The Wheat sowed in drills at this place seems to be coming up very thin. Whether more is to arise, or the ground was not sufficiently seeded cannot as yet be decided on. The latter is to be feared, nor is it perfectly in drills being too much scattered. Note. To do this work well furrows should be opened for the seed to fall in.

At Dogue Run, except the two old Women, the rest of the hands were at the Mansn. House.

At French's, two Women and a boy were spreading the trash which had been raked into heaps in the newly sown Wheat ground and hoeing around the stumps; all the rest were at the Mansion House.

At the Ferry, all were at the Mansion House. The Carts of the last 3 places were engaged at the Brick yard.

At the Mansion House, finished sowing the Wheat in the corn ground, $35\frac{1}{2}$ bushls. from the neck, on both sides the Road up to the last cleared ground. On the South side of the road 13 gallons of clean timothy seed (mixed with sand) was sown — more ought to have been sown — 24 at least, as I directed a gallon to be allowed to the acre. On the other, or No. side of the Road orchard grass was sown, viz. [] Bushels. As the whole was not chopped in this afternoon the hands from Muddy hole and the Ferry were ordered to compleat it tomorrow.

Thursday, 11th. Mrs. Plater ¹ and her two daughters, and Mr. George Digges and his Sister came here to dinner and stayed all night. Mr. Lear returned home today.

Friday, 12th. Visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck, the Ploughs and harrows from the different Plantations were at Work, preparing for, and putting in Wheat, One harrow in the Corn, and the Waggon and Carts drawing in Wheat. The other hands were clearing wheat (which had been tread out yesterday) and picking up apples.

At Muddy hole, the Cart was drawing in Rye, others spreading Flax the seed of which had been taken of, and measured 2 Bushels.

At Dogue Run, two Carts (one from French's) and the Mansn. Ho. Waggon were drawing in Wheat, and those who were not employed in loading and stacking were getting the Seed of the Flax.

At French's, the People were Hoeing round the stumps

¹ Wife of Colonel George Plater (1735-92), of St. Mary's County, Maryland. Governor of Maryland, 1791-92, and died while in office. Member of the Council, 1771-74. He married Hannah Lee, of Virginia, and, after her death, Elizabeth Rously, daughter of John Rously, of 'Rously Hall.' Elizabeth's mother, after the death of John Rously, married Colonel William Fitzhugh.

in the field No. 5, newly sown with Wheat, and taking up the grubs.

At the Ferry, the People were about there fencing, the Ploughs as those of the other Places being in the Neck.

Saturday, 13th. Rid with Mrs. Plater and Mrs. Washington to the Mill and New Barn.

Colo. Plater, Mr. Hall and a Mr. Mathews came here (from Mr. Digges's) just after we had dined, stayed all N.

Sunday, 14th. Colo. Plater, his Lady and daughter Mr. Digges and his Sister; and Mr. Hall; and Mr. Mathews went away after breakfast.

Monday, 15th. Visited all the Plantations. In the Neck, 21 plows and Harrows were employed in preparing for and putting in Wheat, the Harrow that was in the Corn having finished that Work. The Carts and Waggon were drawing grain from field No. 3. Some of the People were stacking, and others spreading the trash raked together by the Harrows.

At Muddy hole, Getting in and stacking the Rye, and threshing it out.

At Dogue Run, the Cart from French's, and the Waggon from the Mansn. House were assisting in getting in the grain, some of the people assisting in this and in Stacking. The rest with the People from the Ferry, were getting the Seed from the Flax.

At French's, the People had just finished about 12 Oclock getting the seed from the flax and spreading it, after which they were ordered to Dogue Run.

At the Ferry, the Plows were in the Neck, and the other People were, as above, at Dogue Run.

Tuesday, 16th. Rid to Muddy hole, Dogue Run, French's and the Ferry.

At the first, Having got in the grain, the Cart, after

carrying a load of Rye to the Mill went into the Neck to assist with the grain there. Some of the other hands were employed in cleaning the Rye wch. they had threshed, and others came to the Corn at the Mansn. Ho. to cut the tops. Note. This Corn, since the working it received to put in the Wheat and grass Seeds, has fired most astonishingly, except the part which was worked since harvest. This seems rather to be benifitted, tho' after that working it fired a good deal but recovered its colour again. Now it is too late to do this by that wch. has lately fired.

At Dogue Run, the same hands, with the addition of those from French's were employed as yesterday, and in spreading the flax from which the Seed had been taken. Finished getting in all the grain this Evening.

At French's and the Ferry, the Plows and People were abroad as already mentioned.

Wednesday, 17th. Rid to all the Plantations.

In the Neck, Finished sowing Wheat in No. 8 last night; and the Plow horses were engaged to day in treading out a bed of Rye, and another of Oats. Some Plows, were engaged in the ground where the bunch hominy beans grew. 106½ bushels of Wheat were sown in the above field. The Carts from Muddy hole and French's were assisting here to get in the grain, and, except those who were employed in loading the Carts and stacking, the People were attending the treading out of the above grain.

At Muddy hole, the hands except who were with the Plows were about the Fodder in the Mansion House Cornfield.

At Dogue Run, the same hands as yesterday, were employed about the Flax. Some still remained at the stacks, the grain not being all secured.

At French's and the Ferry the hands were absent as before mentioned, with the flax at D. R.

Thursday, 18th. Rid to the Ferry, French's and Dogue Run Plantations.

At the first, began with the Plows belonging to it and those of French's to break up field No. 3 for Corn next year, but the ground had got so hard as to oblige them to go twice in the same furrow. The hands of this place (except the Ferrymen) still at D: Run about the Flax.

At French's, the Plows were employed as above, the hands at Dogue Run.

At Dogue Run, Four of the Plows belonging to the place, and the 3 from Muddy hole began to break up No. 7 for Corn, next year. All the other people together with those from French's and the Ferry were getting the Seed from, and spreading of the Flax.

The People from Muddy hole, except one who was cutting and attending the Tobacco, were about the Fodder at the Mansion House.

Friday, 19th. Visited all the Plantations at the Ferry, French's and Dogue Run. In the Neck, the Carts &ca. would have finished (by Night) getting in all the grain. The other people after cleaning up the Oats and Rye which had been tread out, viz, $43\frac{1}{2}$ of the first and 72 of the latter were employed in pulling the blades of the Corn from which the tops had been taken yesterday. No Plows at Work here today, nor since the Wheat was down.

At Muddy hole all hands, except those with the Plows and Cart were employed with the Fodder at the Mansion House.

At Dogue Run Seven plows were at Work. The other hands, with those from the Ferry and French's were about the Flax which would be stripped of the Seed and spread today.

At Frenchs the Plows and other People were employed as yesterday.

At the Ferry Five Plows were at Work, one from Frenchs wanting repairs.

Saturday 20th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, Frenchs and Dogue Run.

At the first, the Plow horses of this place and French's were treading out a bed of Rye, the other hands attending.

At French's, the people were cleaning the flax seed which had been beat out some days ago $4\frac{3}{4}$ bushl., and Hoeing the Waste ground adjoining. The fences of field No. 5 in which to put Wheat.

At Dogue Run, the Plow horses were engaged in treading out Rye. The People in attending the work and cleaning flax Seed, which was sent to the Mansn. House — qty $22\frac{1}{2}$ bushels.

Colonel Harrison, and Colo. Ho[o]e came here to dinner and stayed all Night.

Sunday, 21st. Mr. John Nisbet and a Mr. Cunningham from the West Indies came here to dinner and stayed all Night.

Colo. Hooe returned to Alexandria after dinner.

Monday, 22d. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, Dogue Run and French's.

At the first the People began to get fodder, aided by the hands from the latter. Six plows were at work, breaking up field No. 3 twice in a Furrow. The Carts (French's joined) were drawing Rails to enclose the Wheat and Hay stacks.

At French's, Hands employed as above at the Ferry.

At Dogue Run, Eight Plows were at work breaking up field No. 7, twice in a furrow. The other hands were employed in getting fodder.

At Muddy hole, the whole force was about getting in, and securing the fodder at the M:House.

Mr. Nisbet, Mr. Cunningham and Colo. Harrison went away after breakfast. Majr. Powell,¹ sub. Sheriff, came here on business before dinner and dined.

Tuesday, 23d. Visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck, Seven Plows began yesterday to break up Field No. 9. The rest of the hands were about the fodder.

At Muddy hole, All hands, and the Cart, were engaged with the fodder.

At Dogue Run, the Cart was drawing Rails for a fodder Stack. All the other hands were engaged in pulling Blades. Seven plows were at work breaking up No. 7.

At French's, the Plows and Cart and all the hands were at the Ferry.

At the Ferry, Six plows were at work in field No. 3. The Carts were drawing Rails to enclose the Wheat and the other hands were about the fodder.

Wednesday, 24th. Rid to the Ferry, French's and Dogue run Plantations.

At all of which the same work as yesterday, precisely; so likewise at Muddy hole.

Thursday, 25th. Dined at Mr. Benja. Dulany's, but passed through the Plantations at the Ferry, French's and Dogue run.

At all of which the same work was going on, both with the Plows and other people, as yesterday.

Friday, 26th. Rid to all the Plantations.

In the Neck, Six Plows only were at work; all the other hands were engaged about the Fodder.

At Muddy hole, the three Plows belonging here were at

¹ Major Joseph Powell, deputy sheriff of Fairfax, who collected the parish levies.

Dogue run, and the other hands at the Mansion house about the Fodder, wch. would be compleated this Night.

At Dogue Run, French's, and the Ferry the same work as usual both with the Plows and How People was going on.

Mr. and Mrs. Crawford (of Maryland), who came here on Wednesday evening, went away this morning after breakfast.

Saturday, 27th. Rid to the Ferry, French's and Dogue Run Plantation.

The same work at all three, as in the days preceeding, with the Muddy hole hands in aid at the latter.

Turned the Mares and Colts from the Pasture at the home house into that at the Ferry to day.

Received a Bull calf from Mr. Digges's today.

Mr. Chas. Lee came here in the afternoon and stayed all Night.

Monday, 29th. Visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck, All the tops were cut and blades pulled from the Corn on Saturday last, but not got in being too green. All hands, except 5 people at the Plows, getting them in to day.

At Muddy hole, All hands were at Dogue run.

At Dogue run, Six plows only were at work. All the other hands with those from Muddy hole, were getting fodder, excepting the Carter, who was drawing Rails to make the division between fields No. 5 and 6.

At French's, All hands were at the Ferry; and

At the Ferry, Six plows were at work, and the other hands were about the Fodder.

Began to cut with Scythes the Indian Pease at French's in field No. 5.

Put the Rams to the Ewes at all the Plants.

Tuesday, 30th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's and Dogue Run.

At the first, the Six plows were at work, and all the hands of both Plantations about the fodder, which would be all down but not dry enough to secure to day.

At French's, the Plows and other force, were at the Ferry as above.

At Dogue Run, Seven plows were at work; the other hands with those from Muddy hole were about the fodder which would be all down to day, but not got in.

A Mr. Cary (who came down here to enquire into his right to Lands under the claim of one Williams his father-in-law) dined here and returned to Alexandria afterwards.

OCTOBER

Wednesday, 1st. Visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck, the Fodder not being dry enough to take in, the People were employed in pulling up the Black eye pease by the Roots. Seven plows were at work in No. 9.

At Muddy hole, all the hands with the Cart were at Dogue Run.

At Dogue Run, Seven plows were at work; all the other hands (that were well) with those from Muddy hole were turning flax.

At French's, the hands of the Plantation, with those from the Ferry, were turning flax and getting Poles and forks for a fodder House.

At the Ferry, Six plows were at work, the other hands, except one or two who were about their fodder house were as above, at French's.

Thursday, 2d. Rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue Run, French's and the Ferry.

At the first, All the hands were still at Dogue Run, also the Plows.

At Dogue Run, in the forenoon the hands (with those of Muddy hole) were employed about a cross fence, betwn. fields No. 5 and 6; afterwards in opening and spreading the fodder. Six Plows only were at work here.

At French's, the Plows and people were, in the forenoon, working at the Ferry. In the afternoon the latter were engaged about their fodder House except 3 who went to Dogue Run.

At the Ferry, Six Plows were at work. The other hands (with those from French's) were in the forenoon making and compleating the Fence between fields No. 3 and 4. In the afternoon they were opening and turning their fodder.

Yesterday before the Rain fell, and partly while it was falling I sowed 19 Rows of the Yellow bearded Wheat between the Rows of the Mangel Wurzel and those of the Carrots, placing the grains about one inch apart.

Friday, 3d. Went with Mrs. Washington to Abingdon, to visit Mrs. Stuart who was sick.

Saturday, 4th. At Abingdon still.

Sunday, 5th. Returned home after breakfast and reached it about 11 ock.

Monday, 6th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run and Muddy hole.

At the Ferry, Six plows were at work which was done much better since the Rain. Some of the hands were stacking blades and the rest were at work at French's.

At French's, all hands were pulling blades from the Corn from which the tops were taken on Saturday last.

At Dogue Run, Seven plows were at work; all the other hands were getting in and securing fodder.

At Muddy hole, the Plows were at Dogue Run. The other hands were repairing a fence through the Swamp which incloses field No. 4, untill it began to rain, after which they began to thresh.

Tuesday, 7th. Did not stir from home.

Wednesday, 8th. Rid to the Plantations at Muddy hole, Dogue Run, French's and the Ferry.

At Muddy hole, After pulling up the Early (or Carolina) Pease, the hands about Noon, went to Dogue run to assist about their fodder.

At Dogue Run, the People were opening and spreading the fodder, 7 Plows were at work, and the Cart, as that of Muddy hole, French's and the Ferry also were, were carting brickwood at the New Barn.

At French's, After opening the Tops, the People were employed in taking up the Flax which had been spread and was supposed to be rotten enough.

Sent Mr. Lear to Alexandria to day on business.

Thursday, 9th. Visited all the Plantations. In the Neck, the People having pulled up all the Pease that were planted in Hills had begun to dig the Irish Potatoes. between the Corn rows in order to sow Rye. The Carts and Waggon were getting in the Pease, and one man was cutting down with a scythe those Pease which had been sown in Broadcast. Six plows were plowing the grd. where the Pease grew in Hills for wheat, and 1 pr. of old dble. harrows covering it; but finding the ground to work very loose and mellow, I directed what remained unplowed of the ground to be sowed plowing that the Wheat might be plowed in. The harrows to follow after: first as the plows run, and

then to cross; that the ground might be made level and fit for the reception of Seeds.

From Muddy hole, all the hands had gone to Dogue Run.

At Dogue Run, two Carts, and all the other hands were employed in getting in the Fodder, which they finished doing in the evening. With the Ditchers, House People, etca., the Flax at this place was taken up tied in bundles, and heaped to be Housed.

At French's, all hands, together with those from the Ferry, were employed in and about the fodder, and sending to the Mansion House the rotted Flax.

At the Ferry, the People were aiding as above at French's.

Cut the young bay Stallion Colts which (at first) were designed for stud Horses, the one rising 3 and the other 2 years old. Also cut 3 sorrel and a black colt from French's. One of the first must have been 3 years old last spring, another of them 2 years old, and the third one year old. The black was two years old last spring.

The Revd. Mr. Keith and Doctr. Craik dined here and went away afterwards.

Friday, 10th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's and Dogue Run.

It was this day, and not yesterday, that the above Horses were cut.

At the Ferry, the hands were assisting about the Fodder at French's.

At French's, all hands were engaged about the Fodder.

At Dogue Run, after having got all the Flax which had been taken up the overnight into the Tobacco Ho., the People assisted by those of Muddy hole set about taking up the Irish Potatoes in order to prepare the ground for Wheat. 7 Plows at work.

Saturday, 11th. Rid to all the Plantations.

In the Neck, Seven Plows and a harrow were at work in the Pease grd. by the Barn which by night would be sowed with Wheat. On the south side of this field [] bushls. of the Wh[i]t[e] English Seed Wheat was sown. Next to this (a small space being left) was a Wheat sent me by Mr. Jno. Barns — about $3\frac{1}{2}$ bushels, and the residue of the grd. was sown with Wheat raised on the Plantation $19\frac{1}{2}$ bushels. The other hands were turning Pease and digging Irish Potatoes, of the latter, from 23 rows comprehended between the first and last carrot Rows were taken 135 Bls. and put into the Corn Ho.

From Muddy hole, all hands were gone to Dogue Run.

At Dogue Run, the whole force were employed (except the Plows) in getting up and carrying in Potats. Seven Plows were at work.

At French's, the hands of the Plantation, with those of the Ferry, were employed about the fodder; finished at this Place with the House gang and Ditchers, cuttg. down the Pease which had been sown in Broadcast in field No. 6, but though some of them had been cut down more than a week, none were dry enough to stack, or put away.

At the Ferry, Six plows (as usual) were at work in field No. 8 which was nearly broke up.

Cut at the Mansn. Ho. to day the 2 working Stallions from French's, 1 Year old Mule Colt; 3 Mule Colts of this Spring; and 1 horse Colt belonging to the Black Mare at French's: and likewise a spring (sorrel colt with a blaze face) at Dogue Run and one in the Neck.

Mr. Hunter and a Captn. Oudebards (a French Gentleman from the West Inds.) dined here to day and returned to Alexandria in the Evening.

Sunday, 12th. A Mr. Whiting of Berkeley, on his way from Gloucester (with a letter from Mr. Francis Willis

Junr.) called here and dined, after which he proceeded to Alexandria. This Gentleman was requested to inform Mr. Willis, in answer to his letter to me, dated 24th of Sept. last, that if the sum for which he sold the Negroes (of which Mrs. Washington, the Widow of my deceased Brother Saml. Washington, died possessed, and by will gave to her Son, by him to whom I am heir) with interest thereon from the time of her death and my interest therein commenced, that I shall neither *reclaim* the negroes, nor give him any trouble for the illegality of the act of disposing of them.¹

Monday, 13th. Rid to all the Plantations, and to Majr. Geo. Washington's to give him, at his request, my opinion respecting the spot on which to place his Houses.

In the Neck, the Plows began to put in Rye in the Corn ground, the Pease in Broad cast not being removed from the ground, so as to admit the sowing of Wheat; Turning the Pease which had been pulled up by the Roots in order to cure and stack them, Pulling Pumpkins and threshing Oats.

Muddy hole hands at Dogue run, the Cart belonging to that place drawing Pease together at French's to Stack.

At Dogue Run, Seven Plows were at Work and would, by dinner time, finish (with what was plowed in the Spring) breaking up field No. 7 for Corn next year. The Cart was drawing Rails to fence the Hay Stacks in the middle and upper Meadow. All the other hands, with those from Muddy hole were digging Irish Potatoes. From the short Rows between the first carrot row on the West side of the Field and the Woods 126½ bushls. of Potatoes were dug.

¹ The sentence is incomplete. The meaning probably is that if the sum for which Willis sold the negroes is returned, there will be no further trouble about it. Willis's letter of September 24th is in the Washington Papers, Library of Congress, and is a much-involved epistle, from which it is difficult to extract clear meaning.

At French's, two carts, and all the hands of that and the Ferry Plantation were employed about the Fodder, the Ferry men excepted. The House gang were employed at this place in curing, getting up, and stacking the Pease which had been cut here.

The Ditchers went into the Neck to cutting the broad cast Pease there.

At the Ferry 5 Plows only were at work.

Tuesday, 14th. Rid to the Ferry, French's, and Dogue Run Plantations.

At the Ferry, only 5 plows were at Work. The driver of the other got hurt. The other hands were at French's.

At French's, two Carts and all the hands were about the Fodder. Stirring the Pease at this place with the small gang about the Mansn. House. 3 Men began to ditch below Manley's houses up to the Ferry road.

At Dogue Run, two Plows and a harrow began to put in Wheat among the Corn (from whence the Potatoes were taken) on the West side of field No. 5. The other 4 Plows began on the South side of No. 3 to break it up for Spring grain next year. All the other hands with those from Muddy hole were digging Potatoes.

A Mr. Brown clerk to Mr. Hartshorn came here on business of the Potomck. company.

Wednesday, 15th. Visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck, the Mowers having cut down all the Pease (in broadcast) in field No. 8 were employed in cuttg. down the grass and Weeds where the flax grew, in order that it might be spread and rot. The Hoe People were digging Potatoes, chopping in Rye and wd. go to getting the Pease from field No. 8 in order that Wheat might be sowed therein. Seven plows and two harrows were employed in putting in Rye.

The Muddy hole people were employed with their Plows at D.R. as usual.

At Dogue Run, Four Plows were breaking up field No. 3, and three others were plowing in Wheat; but finding more plows necessary for the latter purpose two from the former were added. All the others were digging Potatoes, of which, between the Easternmost and Western most Carrot rows came $198\frac{1}{2}$ Bushels from 34 Rows.

At French's, about 1 Oclock the last of the blades were pulled and some of the Pease ground in field No. 6 got in order for plowing in Wheat.

At the Ferry, 5 plows were at work and would by Night compleat breaking up field No. 3. The other hands were at work at French's.

Colo. Carrington and Mr. Robt. Purviance of Baltimore, and Mrs. Jenifer and Miss Wagener, came here to dinner and stayed all night.

Thursday, 16th. After breakfast Mrs. Jenifer, Miss Wagener, and Mr. Purviance went away. Colo. Carrington and myself rid to the Ferry, French's and D.R. Plantations and to the new Barn.

At the Ferry, the hands were assisting at French's in getting in the Fodder. The 3 plows belonging to the Plantation were breaking up the head lands in field No. 3.

At French's, two Plows began to cover Wheat in the Pease ground in field No. 6. All the other hands were about the fodder.

At Dogue Run, Five Plows and Harrows were covering Wheat in the Corn ground, and two breaking up in field No. 3. All the other hands of this and Muddy hole Plantation were employed in this work also, and digging Potatoes. Turned the Mares and Colts yesterday into the upper Meadows, which were opened to field No. 6.

Friday, 17th. Colo. Carrington going away after breakfast, I visited all the Plantns.

In the Neck, All the Plows were stopped to tread out Wheat, and all the hands were employed about the same.

From Muddy hole all the hands were at Dogue Run.

At Dogue Run, Some hands from the Ferry had joined those of Muddy hole and this place in digging Potatoes, and putting in Wheat. Ordered the two Ploughs which were breaking up in field No. 3 for spring grain to join those in the Corn field, in order to expedite the Sowing of Wheat.

At French's, 5 plows and harrows were putting in Wheat on the Pease ground. The other hands were getting in and securing the Fodder. The Ditch would be nearly finished this Evening. The Pease turning with the House gang.

At the Ferry, Five hands were stacking blades and doing other odd jobs.

Saturday, 18th. Went up to Alexandria agreeably to a summons to give evid[ence] in the Suit between the Estate of Mr. Custis and Robt. Alexander, but the latter not appearing, nothing was done and I returned home to dinner.

Sunday, 19th. Mr. O'Kelly, the Dancing Master, Mr. O'Kelly, the Lawyer, Mrs. O'Conner of Alexandria, Mrs. Peake and her Son Harry, and her Nephew Eaglan, dined here, all of whom except Mrs. O'Conner went away after it.

Monday, 20th. At home all day.

Tuesday, 21st. Went up to Alexandria to move the Court to appoint Commissioners to settle the Accts. of the Administration of Colo. Thos. Colvill's Estate, to whose Will I was an Executor — Colo. Fitzgerald, Mr. William Herbert and Mr. Robt. McCrae, being nominated for this purpose, any two to act. I dined at Mr. Fendall's and came home in the afternoon.

Wednesday, 22d. Sent Mrs. O'Conner to Alexa.

Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's and Dogue Run.

At the latter, the hands from the two first except the Ferry men and carts, together with their plows, as were the Plows of Muddy, were all at work digging Potatoes and plowing and Hoeing in Wheat among the Corn.

At Muddy hole the Hoe People were pulling up their Pease wch. had been planted in Hills. They were in a manner green but the apprehension of a frost induced this measure. Those Pease which were sent me by Colo. Spaight and planted at this place at the same [time] were quite ripe and had been pulled great part of them many days ago — qty. of these latter about 9 bushels from about [] Acres of grd. These are a very forward kind, and must be reserved for Seed.

Thursday, 23d. Rid to all the Plantations. In the Neck, the Plows had, about noon, just finished sowing the last of the Wheat in field No. 9 — qty., South of the Road leading to the Creek landing, [] bushels; which with a small corner on the No. Side of the Road that had been in Hominy Beans make [] bushels in all in this field. This compleats the last sowing of Wheat at this Plantation. The Hoe People were digging Potatoes; and for want of having them out of the way of the Plows to be putting in Rye, these were obliged to return to field No. 8 to breaking up, till the Hoe People should get sufficiently ahead with the Potatoe digging between the Corn Rows.

At Dogue Run, the hands and Plows of all the other Plantations were at Work.

The Ditchers and Mansn. House Gang, with the Waggon and two Carts were getting in and stacking the Pease at French's.

Friday, 24th. Rid to the Ferry, French's and Dogue Run Plantations.

From the Ferry, the Plows were gone to French's to put in Wheat, and the other hands, except the Ferry men, were at Dogue Run digging Potatoes.

At French's, 5 plows were at work putting in Wheat in No. 6; the other hands were at D: Run digging Potatoes.

At D: Run, Seven plows and Harrows were covering Wheat among the Corn in field No. 6. All the other hands were following with the Hoes and digging Potatoes before them. Muddy hole people aiding.

Saturday, 25th. Rid to the Ferry, French's and Dogue Run Plantation to make a fresh distribution of the Mares, colts and other Horses that do not work, but not being able to finish it the relation of it is postponed.

At these three plantations and Muddy hole the same work precisely was going on as yesterday.

But at French's, all the Wheat except the garden at, and a small spot just by, Manleys's Houses was sown with Wheat, plowed and harrowed in *once*, but some part had not received the cross harrowing.

Sunday, 26th. Went to Pohick Church and returned home to dinner. Found Dr. Stuart at Mt. Vernon who dined there and returned home afterwards.

Monday, 27th. Rid to all the Plantations. On the Neck, 8 plows were covering Rye among the Corn, all the other hands were digging Pot's. before them, or Hoeing in Rye in the step after them.

The hands from Muddy hole were at D: Run.

At Dogue Run, 7 Plows and Harrows were putting in Wheat as yesterday. All the other hands, consisting of those from the Ferry, French's and Muddy hole, were

putting in Wht. in the Step between the Corn behind the Plows, and digging Potatoes before them.

At French's, 5 plows and a harrow were putting in Rye, in the Middle part of field No. 6, between the newly and first sown Wheat, at this Place.

Getting up the Hogs for killing, at the Ferry, quantity 25, feeding them with Potatoes.

Made the following distribution of the Mares, Colts and Horses that do not work: viz.

At Dogue Run, in the Upper Meadows, 22 Mares, besides Doct. LaMoyeur's, — for breedg. work or Sale.

In the Ferry Meadows and fields adjoining, under the same Inclosure:

Jennies.....	2.....	yrs.
Washington's horse — 1.....	age	5
Peter's..... Ditto 1.....	2	5
Stallion Colts from Mn. Ho....	2	3 and 2
The sett, viz. — 4 Sorrels		
each 2 yrs. old; 2 Horses and		
two Mares little or no White.	4 each	2
A Sorrel horse colt, oldest of		
French's — White.....	1.....	4
A Sorrel Mare frm. Frh's.....	1.....	3
A sorrel horse — blaze		
face light feet and legs,		
from French's.....	1.....	2
A Sorrel Mare, Blaze face		
white feet frm. M:Hole.....	1.....	2
A sorrl. horse colt, blaze		
face, White Feet. Frh's.....	1.....	1
A sorrl. colt, small, blaze		
face, 2 hd. feet White — Ferry	1.....	Spring
A Bay Mare — blaze face		
Dogue Run.....	1.....	2
A Bay — do. no white — D.R..	1.....	2
A small bay horse Colt,		
with a very small and		
dim star — D. R.....	1.....	1

A small bay.... Do. from		
D. Run, no white.....	I.....	1
A likely bla. horse, from Ferry.	I.....	2
A bla. horse Colt with a		
small snip, Frh's.....	I.....	2
A bla. or brown Mare Colt,		
Star and near hd. foot		
White.....	I.....	1
A black or brown Mare		
Colt from Davy's Mare.....	I.....	Spring
A Bla. horse Colt, no		
white, from French's.....	I.....	Spring
Doctr. La Moyeur's — a sorrl..	I.....	1
A Black or dark bro: with a		
blaze face, fm. Neck.....	I.....	2
In all....	<u>27</u>	

Tuesday, 28th. Rid to the Ferry, French's, and Dogue Run Plantations.

At the first the Plows and Harrows were putting in Rye at French's in field No. 6. The other hands, except the Ferry men, were at Dogue Run.

At French's, putting in Rye as above. The other hands were at D: Run.

At D. Run, Seven Plows and harrows were putting in Wheat, and all the hands above mentioned with those of the Plantation and Muddy Ho. were digging Potatoes and covering wheat in the Step between the Corn.

Wednesday, 29th. Rid to all the Plantations.

In the Neck, the hands were digging Potatoes, but not being able to keep way before the plows, the latter went to breaking up field No. 8 Ordered the Pumpkins at this and all the other plantations to be taken up and secured as a severe frost might be expected.

The hands from the several places were at work as yesterday.

Took up the Mangel Wurzel, or Roots of Scarcity, in the Inclosure below the Stable. Had those raised from the seeds sent me from Doctr. Rush (coming immediately from Doctr. Letsum) 48 in number put by themselves; being of the grey, or marble coloured sort. And those which approached nearly to this colour from the seed had from Mr. Peters was also put by themselves — both kinds to raise seed from for another year, making together $2\frac{1}{2}$ bush. Those with red leaves, and leaves approaching nearly to this colour were laid aside for eating or giving to the stock. The largest of these white leaved roots only weighed (after the leaves were taken of) 3 lbs. 6 oz., and altogether [] lbs., filling 6 bushels.

Colo. Symm¹ on business respecting the affairs of Colo. Geo: Mercer and his Mortgages came here, dined, and returned afterwards.

Thursday, 30th. Rid to Muddy hole, Dogue Run, French's and Ferry Plantations.

At Muddy hole, the Hoe people began to dig their Irish Potatoes in field No. 3. The Plows of this place wd. finish sowing Wheat at Dogue Run to day, and return and put in their own Rye.

At Dogue Run, All the Potatoes wd. be dug to day; total qty. 64 Bushels.

At French's all the Rye wd. be sown this Evening — qty. [] bushels. This must be too thick, as the grd. in which it was put could not exceed [] Acres. The grd. for this was first plowed, then the Seed sown and harrowed in, afterwards cross harrowed.

At the Ferry (as from French's), the Hoe people were all at D: Run; would return home to Night — as would the Ferry Plows from French's.

Sowed the remainder of the yellow bearded Wheat ad-

¹ Colonel Charles Simms, of Alexandria.

joining the last in the enclosure below the Stable in the ground where the Irish Potatoes grew — 6 rows.

Friday, 31st. Finished pruning the Weeping Willows, and other Trees in the Serpentine walks front of the House and was on the point of Riding when Mr. William Fitzhugh, Junr. (of Maryland), came in, about 10 O'clock. After whom Colo. Henry Lee arrived. Both stayd dinner, and the latter all night.

Remained at home all day.

NOVEMBER

Saturday, the First. Colo. Lee went away after breakfast and I rid to all the Plantations.

In the Neck, all the Plows were putting in Rye, and all the Hoes employed in taking up Potatoes and hoeing in Rye between the Corn.

At Muddy hole, the Plows began to put in Rye in field No. 3 where the Pease grew in hills. The Hoe People continued digging the Irish Potatoes which they began on Thursday last.

At Dogue Run, the Plows were breaking up field No. 3. and the other hands were employed in taking up the scattering Potatoes and fallen Corn.

At French's, both plows and Hoes were employed in breaking up the bouting Roes along the fence that they may be sowed in the grain the field has received.

At the Ferry, the plows were breaking up No. 5. The other people, some were cleaning up the Rye that was tread out yesterday, and some digging Potatoes.

Doctr. Craik was sent for, and came down this afternoon to visit Waggoner Jack, who had been sick two or three days.

Sunday, 2d. Mr. George Mason came here to dinner and

returned in the Evening. After dinner word was brot. from Alexandria that the Minister of France was arrived there and intended down here to dinner. Accordingly, a little before sun setting, he (the Count de Moustiers ¹ his Sister, the Marchioness de Brehan, the Marquis her son, and Mr. du Ponts ² came in.

Monday, 3d. Remained at home all day. Colo. Fitzgerald and Doctr. Craik came down to dinner, and with the copy of an address (which the Citizens of Alexandria meant to present to the Minister) waited on him to know when he would receive it.

Mr. Lear went to Alexandria, to invite some of the Gentlemen and Ladies of the Town to dine with the Count and Marchioness here to morrow.

Tuesday, 4th. Mr. Herbert and his Lady, Mr. Potts and his Lady, Mr. Ludwell Lee and his Lady, and Miss Nancy Craik came here to dinner and returned afterwards.

Wednesday, 5th. The Minister and Madame de Brehan expressing a desire to walk to the New Barn we accordingly did so, and from thence through French's Plantation to my Mill, and from thence home compleating a tour of at least seven Miles.

Previous to this, in the Morning before breakfast I rid to the Ferry, French's, D. Run, and Muddy hole Plantations.

At the Ferry, some of the People were cleaning up the Rye which had been tread out the day before, others were digging Potatoes. The Plows were at work in No. 5.

At French's the People were preparing the yard to tread out Oats which had remained in shocks at the yard.

¹ Éléonor-François Élie, Comte de Moustier, who succeeded Anne César, Chevalier de La Luzerne, as Minister from France to the United States.

² Victor Marie du Pont, son of Pierre Samuel du Pont de Nemours.

At Dogue Run, some hands were cleaning up Rye, and preparing to lay down a bed of Wht., and others digging a Cellar to store Irish Potatoes in. The Plows yesterday and this day being stopped to tread out grain.

At Dogue Run Muddy Hole, the People were raising Mud for Manure; the Rye would be all in and covered to day.

Thursday, 6th. About Nine O'clock the Minister of France, the Marchioness de Brehan and their suit, left this on their return for New York. I accompanied them as far as Alexandria and returned home to dinner. The Minister proceeded to George Town after having received an address from the Citizens of the Corporation.

In the afternoon Mr. Ferdinand Fairfax¹ came in and stayed all Night.

Friday, 7th. Went with Mr. Fairfax to my New Barn and to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's, Dogue Run, and Muddy hole.

At the Ferry, five plows were breaking up Field No. 5. The other force was cleaning Wheat which had been tread out and digging Potatoes.

At French's, two of the Plows were at the Ferry, the other was stopped. Some of these people were digging Potatoes at the Ferry and others cleaning up Oats.

At Dogue Run, the Plows were at work in Field No. 3 — that is five; one of them from Muddy hole. The people were cleaning Wheat.

At Muddy hole, the hands were getting up Mud — and some endeavouring to get up Hogs.

Saturday, 8th. Went up to Alexandria, agreeably to a

¹ Ferdinand Fairfax, younger son of Bryan Fairfax. Washington was his god-father.

summons, to give testimony in the Suit depending between the Estate of Mr. Custis and Mr. Robt. Alexander. Returned by the New Barn which had got about half the Rafters up.

Found Mr. Stuart, Miss Stuart, and all Mrs. Stuart's Children here when I came home.

Sunday, 9th. At home all day.

One of the Bucks in the Paddock having much wounded the Young Woman Dolshy, Doctr. Craik was sent for who came and stayed all Night.

Monday, 10th. Doctr. Craik went away in the Morning. Rid to all the Plantations.

In the Neck, the Plows and all hands were putting in Rye and taking up Potatoes, except a few who were threshing out Oats.

At Muddy hole, two Plows were gone to Dogue Run — the Plowman of the other, and the Overseer were endeavouring to get up some outlaying hogs. The other People were getting up Mud.

At Dogue Run, the Plows were at Work in No. 3. The other hands were cleaning up the Tailings of Wheat and preparing the Cellar for Potatoes.

At French's, the Overseer and one or two other hands were employed in putting in Wheat in the bouting rows, in field No. 6; especially in that part where the Wht. was sown in drills. The other hand and his plows were at the Ferry.

At the Ferry, five plows were at work in No. 5. Part of the hands were cleaning Wheat which had been tread out and part were getting up Potatoes.

The New Barn would *nearly* if not *quite* have the Rafters up to day.

Tuesday, 11th. All my People, except those in the Neck

were on the public road repairing of them to day; attended, in some measure, this business myself.

Mr. Lund Washington, Overseer of the Roads, dined here to day.

Wednesday, 12th. The force of yesterday was employed in the roads to day.

Mrs. and Miss Stuart went away after breakfast.

I rid to the Repairers of the Road and to my New Barn. The Rafters of which were all raised about Noon.¹

Mr. Lund Washington dined here again to day.

Thursday, 13th. Began a survey of the Road leading from my Ferry to Cameron, and thence along the Back road by Mr. Lund Washington's and Mr. Triplett's² to my Mill, and from thence *direct* to the Ferry; But meeting Doctr. Craik coming to introduce a Mr. Wilming³ and another German from Bremen, I turned back with them after having got as far as Cameron. Dr. Craik ret'd.

Friday, 14th. Mr. Wilming, the German Gentleman above mentioned having offered to engage a Gardener for me and to send him in a ship from Bremen, I requested that it might not exceed the following conditions for him and his Wife (if he brings one): viz. Ten pounds sterling for the 1st year, Eleven for the 2d., Twelve for the 3d., and so on, a pound increase, till the sum should amt. to 15, beyond which not to go. That he would be found a com-

¹ The barn was of brick. Washington, writing to Arthur Young, December 4, 1788, says: 'The building of a brick barn has occupied much of my attention this summer. It is constructed according to the plan you had the goodness to send me; but with some additions. It is now, I believe, the largest and most convenient one in this country.' Brissot de Warville says that this barn was one hundred feet in length and considerably more in breadth.

² Thomas Triplett.

³ Henrick Wilmans. He sent the gardener over as he promised, with whom Washington appeared to have been pleased.

portable House, or room in one, with bedding, victuals and drink; but no clothes; *these* for *self* and *wife* to be provided at his own expence. That he is to be a compleat Kitchen Gardener with a competent knowledge of Flowers and a Green House. And that he is to come under Articles and firmly bound. His, or their passages to be on as low terms as it can be obtained. The Wife if one comes is to be a Spinner, dairy Woman, or something of that usefulness.

After Mr. Wilming went away, as soon as breakfast was over I rid to all the Plantations.

In the Neck, the sowing of ten bushels of Winter Barley, East side of field No. 6, between the Corn was just finished (for an experiment), being delayed till this time for want of the Barley, from Mr. Wayles. The People were employed in digging Potatoes which they wd. finish Doing to day. The Plows were, some breaking up No. 8, and others plowing in Rye the sowing of which would be compleated to morrow.

At Muddy hole, the hands were getting up Mud. Plows at D. Run.

At Dogue Run, they were cleaning a bed of Wheat which had been tread out yesterday; and compleating the Potatoe Cellar.

At French's, the People were repairing the Fences around field No. 5. The Plows were at the Ferry.

At the Ferry, 6 plows were at Work, the People digging Potatoes.

Mr. Lear finished to day what was left undone yesterday of the Survey of the Roads.

Doctr. Logan ¹ and Lady of Phila. and a Monsr. [] of Lyons in France, came here to dinner and went away afterwards.

Saturday, 15th. Went with my Compass and finished the

¹ George Logan.

line of stakes from Dogue run (at the Tumbling dam) to Hunting Ck., for a Road on the border of my land adjoining to Colo. Mason's; also connected this with the Road leading from the Gum Spring to Alexandria, and from the former run the courses and measured the distances to my Mill and from the Mill to the Mansion House.

On my return home in the Evening I found Mr. Warville ¹ and a Mr. de Saint Tries here, brought down by Mr. Porter, who returned again.

Sunday, 16th. Monsrs. Warville and Saint Tres returned to Alexandria in my chariot.

Monday, 17th. It was this day and not yesterday that Mr. Warville and Mr. Saint Tres went to Alexandria. An Officer in the Navy of the United Netherlands came here to dinner and stayed all Night, introduced by Mr. Jas. McHenry of Baltimore, his name, Richard Daily.

I remained at home all day.

Tuesday, 18th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's and Dogue Run.

At the Ferry, Six plows were at work, all the other force of this place and French's were digging Potatoes.

At Dogue Run, Seven plows were at work. The other hands were cleaning up Wheat which had been tread out, and grubbing and Sprouting in the field where the Plows were.

¹ J. P. Brissot de Warville, who published an account of his travels in America, in Paris, 1791: *Nouveau Voyage dans les États Unis de l'Amérique Septentrionale, fait en 1788*. In it he describes his visit to Mount Vernon, the general aspect of the place, Washington's new barn, the simplicity of Mount Vernon life, Mrs. Washington, and the General himself: 'His eye bespeaks great goodness of heart, manly sense marks all his answers, and he sometimes becomes animated in conversation; but he has no characteristic features . . . his modesty is astonishing to a Frenchman; he speaks of the American war and of his victories as of things in which he had no direction.'

The Muddy hole hands began to gather Corn in the New grd. at the home house yesterday.

Wednesday, 19th. Rid to all the Plantations.

In the Neck, the Plows were at Work breaking up field No. 8. The other hands were stripping the Seed off the flax in order to Spread

At Muddy hole, gathering and carrying home as on the preceeding days.

At Dogue Run, sprouting the meadow, the Weather being too heavy to tread Wheat.

At French's and the Ferry, the same Work going on as yesterday.

Thursday, 20th. Went to Alexandria with Mrs. Washington. Dined with Colo. Henry Lee and Lady at Mr. Fendall's and returned home in the Evening.

Found Doctr. La Moyeur here.

Friday, 21st. Visited the Plantations at the Ferry, French's and D: Run.

At the two first, the Plows were at work as usual. The other hands were digging Potatoes.

At Dogue Run, 7 plows were at work, the other hands riddling Potatoes and putting them away in the Cellar which has been prepared for them.

Muddy hole People about Corn. Doctr. Lee came here to dinner and stayed all Night.

Saturday, 22d. Doctr. Lee going away after breakfast, I rid to all the Plantations.

In the Neck, Seven plows began to break up that part of field No. 8 wch. is directly opposite to Mr. Adam's ¹ on the point. The other hands, having finished spreading the flax, were employed in threshing out Pease.

¹ Abednego Adams.

At Muddy hole, finished gathering the Corn in the New ground and Carting it to the Plantation. The Grey Mare slunk her fold.

At Dogue Run, Seven Plows, as usual were at Work. The other hands were riddling Potatoes.

At the Ferry and French's ¹ (which are now united under one management), Six plows were at work as usual, and the other People began to get Corn from the Ferry field No. part and to husk it.

Began at all the Plantations to feed my fattening hogs with Corn, not finding that they thrive much on Potatoes altho' they eat them very greedily. This might be owing to their not having sufficient age, for they are all young and growing.

Monday, 24th. Visited the United Plantations, D: run and Muddy hole.

At the first the People were husking Corn, and the Plows at work in No. 7 at French's breaking up for B. Wheat and Wheat next year.

At D. Run, Seven plows were still at work in No. 3, the other hands riddling and stowing away Potatoes.

At Muddy hole, the Plows were at D. Run. The other hands were getting up Mud and threshing out Rye.

Messrs. Thos. and Ferdinand Fairfax came here to dinner and stayed all Night.

Tuesday, 25th. At home all day, intending, if the weather would have permitted, to have gone up to the Great and Seneca falls by appointment made with Colos. Fitzgerald and Gilpin.

After dinner the two Mr. Fairfaxes went away.

Thursday, 27th. Rid to the Plantations (United) and to D. Run and Muddy hole.

¹ Subsequently referred to as the 'United Plantations,' and 'Union Farm.'

At the first, Six plows were at Wk. and all the other hands were Grubbing in field No. 7 at French's, where the plowing was going on.

At Dogue Run, the Plows (Seven) were still at Work in field No. 3, and the other People removing Potatoes.

At Muddy hole (the Plows being at D: Run) the People were threshing Rye.

Colo. Blackburn and Mr. Gustavus Scott ¹ of Maryland came here to dinner and stayed all Night, as did a Mr. Packet.

Friday, 28th. Colo. Blackburn and Mr. Scott not going away until towards Noon, together with the suspiciousness of the day, prevented me from riding.

Saturday, 29th. Mr. Richd. Harrison, late Consul in Spain, Colo. Ramsay and Mr. Snow, came here to dinner and returned to Alexandria afterwards.

Rid to the two Plantations (United), to Dogue Run, and to Muddy hole.

At the first, the Plows (6) were as usual at Work, and all the others were digging Potatoes in the Ferry part.

At Dogue Run, Seven plows were at Work. The other hands were digging, topping and stringing Carrots.

At Muddy hole, the Ploughs, as usual, were at Dogue Run. The other hands were (as yesterday) threshing Oats.

Sunday, 30th. It was this day and not yesterday that Mr. Harrison, &ca., were here.

DECEMBER

Monday, 1st. Visited all the Plantations on this side the Creek.

¹ Later, one of the Commissioners of the Federal City [Washington, D.C.].

At the United ones, the Plows as usual were at Work. The other hands were in part digging the Remainder of the Potatoes in the Ferry field No. 2, and would go when they were done, wch. would be about Noon, in to French's No. 4 adjoining about the same work. The other part were cleaning Wheat at the Ferry wch. had been tread out before the late wet weather and part of it sprouted.

At Dogue Run, the Plow horses, and part of the hands were getting out Wheat; the other part finished taking up the Carrots wch., after topping, stringing and washing, turned 86 bushels. These grew on 17 Rows between the Corn, two of which were transplanted and yielded badly — being (generally) small, short and forked, Running more in to top than Root. 34 Rows of Potatoes, also between the Corn and intermixed with the above Carrots, yielded, as noted 15 Oct., 198½ bush. The other mixtures among the Corn were Cabbages, which came to nothing, and Turnips (in drills), which at this time, are not much better; five Rows of each; making together, of the vegetable tribe, 61 Rows, all of which were intermixed between 60 Rows of Indian Corn which are to be gathered, and measured seperately, to see the yield of each.

At Muddy hole the people were getting up Mud for Manure.

Tuesday, 2d. Visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck, the People were gathering Beans, corn, and drawing them in. Only 5 plows were at Work, the Waggon being employed in drawing in Corn. That part of the Corn which was intermixed with Carrots, would be gathered (tho' not measured) to day. It amounted to 49 Rows, between which 23 Rows of Irish Potatoes, yielding 135 bushls. (as observed the 10th of Octr.), hath already been dug, and 13 Rows of Carrots, 12 of Turnips, and one of Turnip Rooted Cabbage now remain.

The Hands from Muddy hole were some at Dogue Run with their Plows and about the Carrots, and some at Frenchs about the Potatoes.

At the two Plantations United, the Plows were at Work as usual. The other hands were employed, some in cleaning up the Wheat as yesterday, and the Rest about the Potatoes; where also the Ditchers, and such others of the weak gang from the House were also sent.

At Dogue Run, the Plow Horses were getting out Wheat; the other hands in topping and Sprouting the Carrots and preparing them for putting away.

Wednesday, 3d. The Plows at these places were at work as usual. After sending of the Wheat to the Mill, the whole force, with some hands from Muddy hole, the Ditchers, etca., from the House, were employed in getting up and securing the Potatoes in field No. 4 at French's in the Barn.

Thursday, 4th. At home all day.

Friday, 5th. Visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck the Plows were stopped by the frost which had frozen the ground quite hard. The greater part of the hands had been working on the public Road the two preceeding days. To day they were removing Potatoes into the Barn from the Corn House.

All the hands from Muddy hole were at Dogue Run, and digging Potatoes at French's. No plowing.

At Dogue Run, Plows were stopped. Part of the hands were gathering, drawing and husking corn, and part cleaning up Wheat which had been tread out.

At the Ferry and French's Plantations, the Plows were at work, and most of the other hands were from about 10 or 11 O'clock digging Potatoes. In the morning, and all

day yesterday the ground was too hard frozen to dig them up. Some of the People were cleaning up (at the Ferry) the last tread Wheat.

Saturday, 6th. Rid to the Ferry and French's Plantn. Lofting Corn at the first, and digging Potatoes at the latter, which were much injured and some entirely destroyed by the frost.

Mr. Dulany dined here yesterday.

Monday, 8th. Went up to Alexandria on business of the Estate of Colo. Thos. Colville, to whom I am an Executor.

Returned in the Evening accompanied by Colo. Henry Lee.

Tuesday, 9th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry, French's and Dogue Run.

At the two first, the Plows were at work in field No. 7 at French's, and all the other hands with the assistance as mentioned last week were employed to day, as they were yesterday, in getting up Potatoes.

At Dogue Run, the Plows finished about Noon, breaking up field No. 3, and the other hands compleated the Husking and measuring the Corn which grew in 60 Rows between the Carrots — qty. 46 barrls. of sound Corn, and 4 of what is called low Corn. Hence

60 Rows of Corn produced	230 Bls.
34 ditto of Irish Potatoes	
intermixed with these	198½
17 ditto of Carrots ditto —	86

Mr. Ludwell Lee and Mr. Elliot Lee came here to dinner, and in the Afternoon with Colo. Henry Lee returned to Alexandria.

Concluded my exchange after dinner to day with Colo. Hy. Lee of Magnolia for 5000 Acres of Kentucke Land,

agreeably to the Memo. which he gave to me, which in case it should have been disposed of by Doctr. Skinner (now deceased), is to be supplied by other Lands of equal value. This bargain was made in the presence of Colo. Humphreys, the two Mr. Lees above mentioned, Mr. Lear, and my Nephew Geo: Auge. Washington.

Wednesday, 10th. Remained at home all day.

William Gardener, my New Overseer for the Neck, arrived (by Water) with his family to day.

Thursday, 11th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry and French's, Dogue Run and Muddy hole.

At the first, the 6 Plows having finished breaking up No. 7 at French's began yesterday about dinner to plow in No. 4 at the Ferry. All the other hands assisted as before were digging Potatoes in No. 4 at French's.

At Dogue Run, the 4 plows at this place and the 3 belonging to Muddy hole began in the afternoon of Tuesday to plow in No. 5 at the latter Plantation, having finished breaking up No. 3 at the first. Some of the hands at this place were cleaning Wheat and the others about the Corn.

At Muddy hole, the Plows began in No. 5 as has been mentioned. Some hands were getting in a Stack of Oats and the rest were at French's.

Friday, 12th. Visited all the Plantations.

In the Neck 7 Plows were in No. 8 breaking it up. The other hands were pulling and getting in Corn; and topping Carrots.

At Muddy hole, 3 plows were at work in No. 5. The other hands were in part threshing Oats, and partly at French's about the Potatoes.

At Dogue Run, the Plow horses were treading Wheat, and the hands attending getting in and husking Corn.

At the Ferry and French's, 6 Plows were at Work in No. 5 at the Ferry. The other hands were all employed abt. the Potatoes.

Saturday, 13th. Visited the Ferry and French's, and Dogue Run and Muddy hole Plantations.

At the two first, the Horses were getting out the Remainder of the Wheat — a small damaged Stack, and the Plow people attending. All the other hands were about the Potatoes which were dug and housed to day — quantity in the whole (at French's) 1088 bushels, but many of them having suffered by frost, and all being put up wet, owing to the sloppiness of the ground occasioned thereby, the whole must be taken out, assorted and dried in order to preserve them. It is indispensable that this work should next year, and every succeeding one, be compleated before the ground begins to freeze; in short as soon as the tops of the Potatoes begin to fade and while there is Sun to dry them properly.

At Dogue Run, treading Wheat again and the other hands employed as yesterday.

At Muddy hole, the Plows and other People were at Work as yesterday.

Monday, 15th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry and French's, and to D: Run and Muddy hole.

At the first two, Six plows were at Work. The other hands were, some of them, digging Carrots in the Ferry field No. 2, and the remainder were taking the Potatoes out of the Barn with a view to dry them; but it appeared to be a vain attempt as there were so many watery ones among them, occasioned by the frost, as to render it scarcely possible to save any without seperating them one by one which would be endless. However, to try the effect I had them spread thin in the sun, and stirred to see if they

would dry; ordering them to remain out, in heaps if the appearance of wet, or frost shd. not be great, and, after again spreading them to morrow, to remove them into the Barn Cellar, tho' they will be exposed there, and to lay them thin there.

At Dogue Run, some of the hands were cleaning up Wheat and others about the Corn. The 4 Plows of this place were at Muddy hole.

At Muddy hole, Seven plows were at work. Some hands were threshing out Oats and the rest were at D. Run.

Received the Remainder of the Carrots which were made in the Neck — quantity, 93 bushels.

Tuesday, 16th. Went to Alexandria to day to lay before the Court a plan of the Roads as they pass through my Mount Vernon. tract of Land to and from the Ferry, with the hardships occasioned thereby, and to ask relief agreeably to the alterations which were proposed and submitted by the said plan, which was readily assented to.

Dined at Colo. Fitzgerald's and returned home in the afternoon.

Wednesday, 17th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry and French's, and to Dogue Run and Muddy hole.

At the two first, 6 Plows were going; the other hands were, some about the Potatoes, and others about the Carrots in French's Corn field No. 4, those out of the Ferry field being topped and sent to the M: House — quantity, 21 bushels from 12 Rows.

At Dogue Run, the Plows 4 were at Muddy hole. All the other hands with some from Muddy hole, were about the Corn.

At Muddy hole, 7 Plows were at work; the other hands at home were threshing and cleaning Oats.

Thursday, 18th. Rid to the Ferry and French's. Only got up the Carrots at the latter and had them brought to the Mansion House — qty., 33 bushels from eight Rows. The Plows were stopped. The other hands were about the Corn getting it out of the Ferry field.

Friday, 19th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry and French's, and to Dogue Run and Muddy hole.

At all, the Plows were unable to move.

At the Ferry and French's, all hands were employed about the Corn of the Ferry field.

At Dogue Run, the People were also about the Corn, getting in and husking it, and about cleaning Wheat which they had threshed out yesterday.

At Muddy hole, except the hands which were aiding at Dogue Run, the rest were employed in threshing and cleaning Oats.

Mr. Madison came here to dinner.

Saturday, 20th. Remained at home with Mr. Madison. Sent My carriage to Dumfries for Mrs. Washington of Bushfield and others, but expect it will find difficulty to cross Occoquan.

Sunday, 21st. Mr. William Craik, and Mr. Washington, son of Mr. Lawrence Washington of Chotanck, dined here and returned afterwards to Alexandria.

Monday, 22nd. At home all day.

The Corn which grew between the Rows of Carrots at the Ferry, being in Number 38, amounted to 28 barrls. or 140 bushls. Of the above 12 Carrot Rows three were transplanted, and did not yield more than a peck each; which is an additional proof that this mode of Culture will not succeed.

The Carriage Returned from Dumfries without Mrs. Washington and the others for whom it went, but was obliged to head Occoquan on account of the Ice which had impeded the passage. Doctr. Stuart called here dined and contd. to Abingn.

Tuesday, 23d, and Wednesday, 24th. At home all day.

Thursday, 25th. Sent Mr. Madison after breakfast as far as Colchester in my Carriage.

Friday, 26th, and Saturday, 27th. At home all day.

Monday, 29th. Rid to the Plantations at the Ferry and French's, and to Dogue Run and Muddy hole.

At the two first all hands had begun to gather, get in, and husk the Corn wch. grew at French's. Taking those Rows which grew between the 8 Rows of Car[ro]lts, which in number were 28, these rows yielded 80 bushels of sound and 10 bushls. of rotten Corn, as the 8 Rows of Carrots did 33 bushels of these Roots.

At Dogue Run, the Men were making a farm Pen, and the Women breaking and swingling flax and getting up the Shattered Corn.

At Muddy hole, the Men were about a farm pen, and the Women threshing Oats.

Tuesday, 30th. Rid into the Neck and to Muddy hole Plantations.

At the first, the Men were about a farm Pen, and the Women threshing.

At Muddy hole, the Men were still about the Farm Pen and the Women threshing.

Wednesday, 31st. Rid to the Ferry and French's, and to Dogue Run and Muddy hole Plann.

At the two first, all hands were about the Corn, and dreadfully wet and disagreeable this work and proves however, [moreover?] improper and injurious it is to have this business on hand so late in the year.

At Dogue Run, the Men (except those with the Plows) were about the Farm Pen, and the Women abt. the flax.

At Muddy hole, Seven Plows were at work, 4 from D. Run and 3 from the Plann. The other hands were repairing fences on the Ferry Road around field No. 5.

END OF VOLUME III

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